

Church Centennial

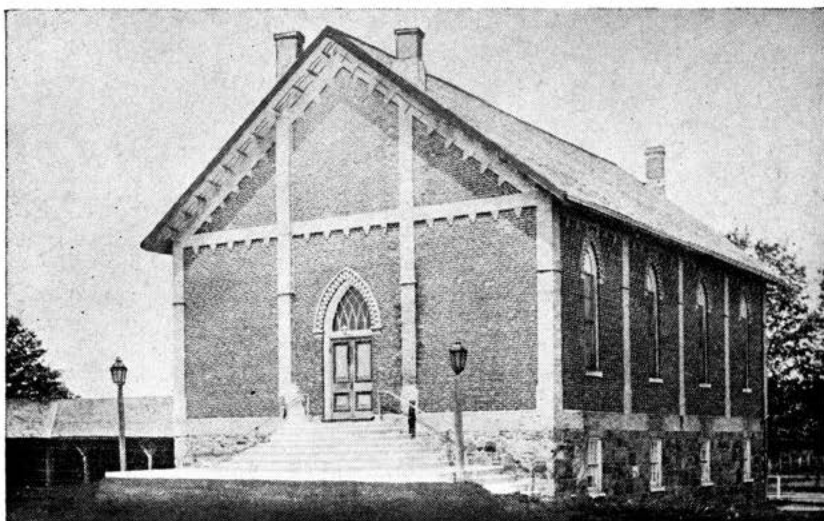


Little Britain
1839-1939



Dedication

To the sons and daughters of Little Britain and vicinity, at home and abroad, this book is respectfully dedicated by the Women's Association in the hope that these records of their forefathers will be accepted with pardonable pride, and that they may prove an inspiration for finer service in the future.



Preface



The suggestion for this booklet comes from a member of the Women's Association, Mrs. William Cornish, one of the interested workers in the Church for many years. In attempting to write a story of the Centenary of our Church and the early settlement of this community, especially of the village, our statements cannot all be guaranteed, but we believe they are not far astray in giving a truthful description of the experiences of the pioneers as have been handed down from one generation to another. Much is recorded as hearing our parents and grandparents relate, and much is written here as told us by people living. We are especially indebted to many we shall not attempt to name. You have contributed many interesting stories and experiences. To one and all we extend our sincere thanks and feel confident that they will appreciate the efforts made, and trust this little history may prove interesting to all who read it.

Centennial of the Little Britain United Church 1839-1939

It is with a degree of pride and thankfulness that we attempt to write a partial history of the good Christian people who have laboured here generation after generation for the past one hundred years. We cannot—as some—point with pride to an edifice built at that time, but rather to the band of noble men and women, who, especially in the earlier days, strove to help in the moral and spiritual welfare of the community. The settlers of this particular faith, known as the Bible Christians, had held services in their humble homes where they were ministered to by saddle-bag preachers, before they built the first little log chapel in 1839, naming it Siloam, and evidently as such it remained until 1871.



Rev. H. Hunter Hillis

It stood on a knoll in what is now known as the old part of the cemetery, on the farm of John Mark, by whom the land was donated. Probably inexperienced workmen, with rude tools but willing hands, erected this, their first house of worship. They were a very devout people, who had strict rules based on the Scriptures. This little church was burned in 1851. Levi Sparks, father of Russell Sparks, remembered seeing it burn when he was but a boy. R. F. Whiteside, Jr., also remembers the box stove amid the ruins, and his sister, Miss Matilda, tells of being in the chapel many times.

The log chapel was replaced by a commodious frame building 30 feet by 40 feet on the same site, and was used until 1871. The building was afterwards moved across the street and for years was used as a Lodge for the Good Templars Society. Finally it was taken to King St., where it now serves as a garage. The plan of the church was of an old type. The high pulpit at the centre front was reached by a staircase leading to a door, and when the preacher entered and closed the door he was indeed "high and lifted up". The men and women entered the church by separate doors and took opposite sides of the church. The congregation did not have the convenience of kneeling stools, but knelt in prayer on the bare, white floor, turning round toward the seats. The occasional irreverent who failed to assume this posture was likely to receive a reprimand from the pulpit. Not much is known of the order of service, although it is believed that it was much the same as the Methodist, perhaps less noisy at revival services. One of the first preachers, as far as we have been able to learn, was Rev. Eynon, familiarly called Daddy Eynon. He travelled on horse-back over blazed trails and at one time was asked why he did not bring his gig (a two-wheeled carriage with a seat for two). He replied, "My gig will never see this part of the country. You will not have suitable roads for many

years." But his gig made the trip many times, as the country was developed faster than he had anticipated. Often he was accompanied by his wife, who wore a large, full, white apron and knit as they drove along.

A meeting of the church members before the regular service on Sunday was called a Class Meeting, and this was considered a very important part of the church life, a time for self-examination. Much encouragement and help was given by the godly Class Leaders, John Mark, John Dix, James Blewett, Wm. Cornish and Thomas Honey, being some of the most devoted and earnest leaders, both in Class Meetings and weekly prayer meetings. The congregational singing, devout and sincere, was led by anyone who volunteered.

A Sunday School, with Mr. Butler as superintendent, was organized as soon as possible, and the Sunday School Anniversary was the most interesting event of the year, at which the children gave the programme, the result of many weeks of anxious preparation. A large platform, decorated with evergreens which formed an arch in the centre, was erected at the end of the church shed. This arch made a striking appearance, being decorated with coloured eggs donated and prepared by Mrs. Butler. After the programme a bountiful meal was served in the adjoining shed. R. F. Whiteside, Jr., still repeats a recitation he gave on one of these occasions.

Three young men from well-known families, and great friends, went into the ministry about the same time from the Bible Christian Church,—Mark Hardy, Joseph Archer, and Moses Metherell. Mark Hardy died at the age of 28, but evidently was instrumental in guiding many to lead a Christian life. Joseph Archer, when a boy of nine, came with his parents from Lincolnshire, England, in 1856. On the ship he had a fall that resulted in spinal trouble, and kept him in bed for five years. A few extracts from his diary have been furnished by his daughter, Mrs. (Rev.) J. U. Robins:

Feb. 1869 (22 years of age)—Started out as a local preacher. After serving for four months was accepted as a probationer and appointed to Perrytown.

Apr. 1869—Preached in the evening at our beloved Siloam (Little Britain) to a large congregation.

Jan. 29, 1872—A splendid Quarterly Meeting was held at Little Britain and brother Moses Metherell offered himself for the ministry.

Also in his diary he speaks very feelingly of Little Britain people of the day. He says—"Little Britain is the most loved spot and the inhabitants of this place dearer to me than any other people beneath the sun. There I was raised from my ninth to my twenty-second year; there was I born of God and there received most of my moral and spiritual culture. It was these loved people and the Holy Spirit who led me on from one

step to another until now I find myself in active service for the Master". Moses Metherell, who was well-known, had at one time been Assistant in the school. He became a much esteemed minister in many charges and at last made his home in Little Britain. Very dear to the people are the memories of these three who all now lie in the Little Britain Cemetery.

In later years another well-beloved young man from the church, who had also been Principal of the Public School, Philip H. Allin, entered the ministry. He married Elizabeth Maunder of Little Britain. In 1902, when stationed in Montreal, and after a few years which gave great promise of a long and successful ministry, he died very suddenly, in his fortieth year, on returning from a service.

Other ministers who at one time were associated with Little Britain Church are Rev. E. Honey, still in active service, Rev. R. W. Elliott (deceased) and Rev. Chas. Elliott.

At this time the District was called Mariposa Circuit and the minister in charge lived at Manilla, nine miles to the north-west, the circuit extending to Shiloh on the north shore of Lake Scugog about the same distance south. The ministers usually came on horseback over the corduroy road on Saturday night, to be ready to take the services at different churches on the Sabbath. Local preachers also were appointed, who in turn officiated at certain services.

In order that each minister, regular and local, as well as the congregations, might know who was to take the service, a printed sheet was prepared for some months ahead. On it was a list of every church service on the circuit, the names of all ministers, and the date and hour of meeting for which each was to be responsible. It also contained notices of week-night meetings, Missionary and Quarterly Board Meetings, and the names of the speakers. It was very cleverly executed, and no better bulletins have ever been issued since. It was placed in a conspicuous place in every home, a favoured place being beside the kitchen clock.

Many of the appointments in time were closed, but at one time on The Plan were Manilla, Oakwood, Little Britain, Blacks (Peniel), Bethel, Salem, Ebenezer, Providence (used as a dwelling opposite the School), Zion, Bethesda (moved across the road and the home of Nelson Sharp), and Shiloh, near Lake Scugog (removed, since after church union with the Methodists in 1889 they became one congregation at Valentia). The ministers in 1875 were Reverends Archibald Clark, J. Kinsey, F. O. C. Jones, J. Hooper. Locals were John Mark, Sr., William Pedlar, T. Gilson, John Dix, John Short, J. Coone, J. F. Cunnings (who lived to be over 100), Parmenas Allin, J. Wills and George Davey.

Bethesda congregation previous to 1884 listed among its earnest workers the names of Humphrey Littlejohn, Spenser Stewart, John Hore, J. Shouldice, Betsy Tinney, Lydia Ray, Mary J. Ray,—Scott, Joseph Werry, Jane Turner, Thomas Start.

At Shiloh were James Emmerson (Class Leader and Sunday School Superintendent), John Bruce (Steward), Swain, Naylor, Parkin, Taylor, Barclay, Smale, Nelson, Starr, Scarlett, James Stewart (missionary to China), Mrs. Stewart, Bertie Stewart, Suggitt, Bryson, Jordan.

Rev. Jesse Whitlock, who previously had been stationed as Circuit Leader at Providence, was now appointed Resident Minister at Little Britain. The parsonage then secured still remains, being part of the house now owned by C. Westlake. During Rev. Whitlock's pastorate a new Bible Christian Church, to accommodate 400 people, was built on a site a little to the east of the old, nearer to the village. For several years this church was filled, especially on Sunday nights, although the service began at six o'clock. A curious coincidence was that nearly all the men in charge of the project were named "John"—John McLellan of Lindsay was a guarantor, John Mark donated the land, and the building committee included John Broad, John Sailes, John Dix, John Murley and John Wallis. At the church opening Rev. Roberts was the special speaker and he secured enough additional subscriptions to clear the church debt. He became so earnest and enthusiastic in his appeal for funds that before he ended, he had removed his collar, tie and coat.

Mrs. William Cornish now owns the hair-cloth sofa provided for the minister in place of the usual chair. On a raised platform at the south end of the auditorium was installed a small pipe organ, operated by hand-power, Mr. Soper performing this laborious duty for 18 years. The choir seats were arranged so that basses and tenors sat on short seats on each side of the organ, while the altos and sopranos filled a long seat in front of them. Windows were opened and shut by means of a long pole having a hook on one end.

Some who sang in the choir were Mrs. S. H. Metherell (Miss Mallett), Misses Lizzie Glass, Lizzie A. Glass, Louie Metherell, Julia Broad, Edith Collacutt, Emma Collacutt, Julia Dix, John Cowle, Jr., James Mark, Jr., Fletcher Dix, Richard Mallett, Richard Collacutt, John Broad, and others. (It is regretted that due to lack of information, all the lists must be incomplete.) Mr. Powers from Taylor's Corners played for the church opening, and for some time afterward was the regular organist for at least one service a Sunday. Mrs. Mary Watts, who had a Junior Choir, often took the organ for other services. Nellie Sailes and Hattie McWatters were two members of the Junior Choir. The following freely gave excellent service in later years as organists: Edith Collacutt, Annie Metherell, Mary Blewett, Lizzie Glass, Bertie Cornish, Mary J. Robinson, Nettie Stratton, Lottie Davidson, Ada Yeo, Phena Allin, May Archer, Mrs. (Rev.) Robins, Maud Slemmon, Candace Clare, also later, Mrs. J. S. Dix, Edna Greenaway, Louie Jenkins.

The floor space of the church was divided by two aisles, one on each side, and the centre space being again divided by a partition. For a short time renting the pews was adopted, but this was soon discontinued.

Some families still occupy the seats chosen at that time by their forefathers. An outstanding characteristic of this building is that our

ancestors, wise or otherwise, placed the main entrance at the south end, opposite the street, on which the basement opens. Whether this was an act of humility or fear of winter winds, no one knows. However, it is believed to be one of the very few churches in existence that enjoy this distinction.

The church opening was a wonderful event. Rev. Roberts and Rev. Cephas Barker of the Observer, with other prominent men on the platform, ensured a good programme, but a great interest centered on the supper which followed. S. H. Metherell, with his committee, had thoroughly canvassed the congregation some weeks before for gifts of money and all kinds of produce to furnish material for a meal worthy of the occasion. All gave gladly, and the result was most acceptable to the crowds who had driven miles to take part in this great event—the opening of their new place of worship. Mrs. James Blewett and her committee of women took charge of all the baking, which had to be divided among the different homes. The menu consisted of beef, ham, home-made bread, loaf-cake, cookies, fruit cake, and a special treat, plum pudding made by Mrs. John Broad. Apparently chicken was served also, since one donation read—"As many roosters as the canvassers (probably S. H. Metherell and James Blewett) could catch in the yard." The lady—who lived six miles from Little Britain—said, "They surely made them fly!" (and caught several).

As the church adhered to the rule of short-term pastorates on each circuit, usually about three years, there now follows a list of devoted ministers who could not remain long enough to see the results of the work they accomplished while on the appointment. The brief summary may be interesting, and at times amusing.

Rev. Whitlock, the first minister, has already been mentioned.

Rev. Archibald Clarke was a forceful speaker.

Rev. William Kenner, in 1879, was in charge when the Bible Christian Conference met at Little Britain. Delegates were entertained in the homes, and many local improvements were made, one of which still stands—the iron fence in front of E. E. Dillman's lawn on King St. N., then built by S. H. Metherell. A story is related of the frantic efforts of the housewives to have everything spick and span for this occasion. One local preacher's wife, overwhelmed with farm work, enlisted the aid of her two sons and papered the spare room while her husband was away preaching, unaware of the activities going on at home. The hostess declared that her conscience troubled her not at all.

It was inspiring to see Mrs. Kenner, herself an able preacher, marshal the whole family, punctually and regularly, into the minister's pew—the second seat on the west side, facing the pulpit—at every service. This meant a march the whole length of the church.

During Rev. W. C. Beer's term of office there took place the Union of the Bible Christian and Methodist denominations.

Rev. Roger Allin, a former B. C. minister. His pastorate was marked by the conversion of many of middle life, who became church stalwarts in the years to follow. In his time probationers were appointed to assist the stationed ministers, for a period of one year each—in 1884, J. Calvert, and in 1885, W. G. Clarke. The latter, who returned some years later as an ordained minister in charge of the circuit, enjoyed repeating this incident: When he came first as a probationer, a timid young man just starting out in the ministry, he arrived in good time, but alas, his trunk containing his ministerial clothes failed to arrive in time for his first service. Rev. Allin, tall, slim, and always kind-hearted, arrayed Rev. Clarke, a much shorter man, in his own coat for his first attempt, and so he appeared in the pulpit.

Rev. Briden, a former Methodist, ably assisted by Mrs. Briden, was instrumental in organizing the first Ladies' Aid Society. Mr. Briden was assisted by J. G. Lewis, H. S. Anderson, and R. Bamforth.

Rev. W. R. Young, a splendid speaker, remained only one year. The assistant was J. M. A. Spence.

Rev. B. Greatrix gave excellent service. His assistant for two years, J. S. I. Wilson, besides doing regular church duties, was choir leader. Another, Robert Emberson, afterward became a missionary to Japan. During this pastorate the church was remodelled, an extension providing an alcove at the north end of the church for organ and choir.

Rev. J. C. Bell remained two years, assisted by R. Boynton and W. J. M. Craig.

Rev. F. B. Stratton took charge for the next three years, assistants being A. R. Delve, A. J. Terrill and E. B. Cooke.

Rev. R. J. E. Robeson was assisted by S. Tucker, C. Hopkins and R. Maunder, just at the turn of the century.

Rev. W. J. Clark was superintendent for four years. The assistants were P. J. S. Huycke, W. W. Jones, G. Grant and W. B. Ben. This ended the era of probationers on this circuit.

Rev. J. E. Moore in his turn carried on very successfully the work of the church. Mrs. Moore's special interest was the Women's Missionary Society.

Rev. J. F. Chapman, a fine, able speaker, and Mrs. Chapman, gave much help and encouragement in the building of a new parsonage and appointing a cemetery committee to improve conditions there.

Rev. J. U. Robins was particularly interested in young people's work, and Mrs. Robins, daughter of Rev. Joseph Archer, was active in the women's organizations, Sunday School, Junior League, etc., and acted as organist for some time.

Rev. R. H. S. Spence was a good organizer, and all the societies benefitted greatly by his experience.

Rev. G. R. Clare came into the turmoil of re-decorating the church and installing memorial windows. Mrs. Clare is still a helper in the church when visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. S. Dix.

Rev. A. E. McCutcheon devoted much time and energy to the work of the Young People's Society, and Mrs. McCutcheon was exceptionally skillful in the training of the younger children.

Rev. A. K. Edmison was pastor during the memorable year 1925, when the United Church of Canada was formed. The present pipe-organ was installed at that time, and Mrs. Edmison rendered valuable assistance in connection with the choir.

Rev. J. G. McKee found that the strenuous times felt by all had also affected the church work, but in spite of difficulties he did splendid work which was fully appreciated.

Rev. H. H. Hillis, the present pastor, had the unexpected problem of repairing damage done to the roof of the church, which had been struck by lightning. A fine metal roof was put on and the chimney rebuilt, and although this was an unexpected expense, when the officials solicited funds the response came readily, and all expenses were paid within three weeks. Other improvements have been undertaken during this term of office, of which the future will show the result.

An added list of beloved early preachers: Reverends Butt, Woodger, Muxworthy, Lapp, Green, Pinch, Eynon, Morris, Miller, Ashley, d'Oble, Cantlon, Hurley H. Kenner, Chapple William Hooper, Wade Colwell, Hull, Gale, Glover, Kinsey, Scheuster.

The church was at first lighted by means of coal oil lamps, then after some years acetylene gas was tried but this proved unsatisfactory, many of the congregation fearing explosions, as it made strange sounds and at times the lights would go out. On one occasion, the night of an entertainment, the room was suddenly plunged in darkness. Many in the crowded auditorium started for the exits, and when the lights came on again the audience had considerably diminished. The choir heroically kept their places during the excitement and sang from memory "Rescue the Perishing" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus". For several years now the church has been lighted by electricity.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith furnished the elements for the communion service of Little Britain. On retiring in 1906 they were presented with an engraved silver tea service, in recognition of their faithfulness. It is a much prized possession of the family.

Faith of our fathers! we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

Sunday School

That the Sunday School is the training place for church membership was always realized by Superintendent and teachers in the early days, and has not changed in modern times. No more earnest band of workers could be found than those who through the years have given time and energy to the training of the young children in the Bible studies. Services were given voluntarily, and it would be serious matters indeed that would cause efforts to relax.

The first superintendent on record was Mr. John Butler, who died in 1870 at the age of 60. Others who followed were John Dix, John Broad, Mr. Lewis, Dr. Vrooman, George Prouse, David Yerex, Richard Oliver, L. Mosure, R. Found, and the present superintendent, E. Linton, principal of the Public School.

Teachers of the Bible Class include Mrs. Butler, Joseph Maunder, R. S. Robertson, and more recently, Charles Found and Mrs. Palmer, all of whom served faithfully and well during their respective terms.

Mr. J. F. Dix has been Secretary-Treasurer for many years.

The Sunday School Anniversary Tea was discontinued several years ago, and a Sunday service is held with special speakers and programme. A Sunday School picnic is also a popular annual feature, usually held at some lake resort.

For a time the Sunday School services were held each Sunday afternoon, but more recently the time of meeting has been advanced to one hour previous to the morning service.



Young People's Union

**Bible Christian—Christian Endeavour Methodist—Epworth League
United Church—Young People's Union**

This Society through the years and under different names has survived and has left behind it a fine record of splendid work done for missionary schemes of the church, and such local causes as came within their scope.

One event in which all members possible participated, experiencing as well as giving much pleasure and profit, was an annual Christmas entertainment, sometimes a play, sometimes a concert, or perhaps a mixed programme, but always concluding with a huge Christmas Tree, heavily laden with presents for the audience, relayed to them by Santa Claus.

One year is outstanding, when instead of the usual Christmas Tree, under the supervision of Christopher Witheridge, a young English

clerk in Morgan's shoe store, a fine vessel laden with its cargo of gifts, sailed in from behind the curtains.

Some of the soloists among the many clever artists were Hattie Hambly, Emma Sailes, Annie Metherell, Lottie Davidson, Edna Greenway, and Ida Bonny.

Many who are now heads of families were at one time active in this society which still functions with different methods but always with the same aim—the general good of the church. The present leader is Doris Faithful.



The Women's Association, formerly Ladies' Aid

In 1888, soon after the union of the Bible Christian and Methodist denominations and during the pastorate of the Rev. W. Briden, a Ladies' Aid Society was formed. The names of the splendid women of the church who helped in the planting and fostering of this society are not on record, but it is quite certain that among them were Smith, Blewett, Wallis, Sailes, Allin, Prouse, Robertson, Dix, Yerex, Greenway, and many others.

Definite records are available from 1910. As the compiling of this booklet took form in the Women's Association, and its success depends largely on the faithful influence of its officers, the names of past presidents and secretaries will be given while outlining success achieved, in order to encourage other members to assume responsibilities in the future:

Past Presidents—Mesdames W. C. Cornish (1), R. Oliver (1), E. Z. Yerex (6), W. W. Sloan (6), R. Avery (2), C. H. Netherton (4), E. Frise (1), G. Heatlie (2), C. Palmer (3), M. Avery (2); in 1939—Mrs. John Connor (1).

Past Secretaries—Mesdames C. H. Lapp, G. W. Hall, J. W. Henderson, R. Avery, J. Trick, E. Frise, W. Henderson, W. Hooper, M. A. Goard, C. Glenney, L. S. Mosure, F. Netherton, G. Heatlie, S. Henderson; in 1939—Mrs. J. Watson.

Activities during that time:

Assisted in building the present parsonage;

With the assistance of Valentia furnished the parsonage;

Equipped the church kitchen;

Redecorated the church in 1921, purchased new fixtures and installed memorial windows, costing in all \$2,000;

Donated \$1,000 toward church shed;

Donated \$475 for the present organ.

In all the expenditures amounted to some \$11,000 in about twenty-five years. The windows were in memory of the pioneers in the life of the church and the community, and were donated by loving friends. One was in memory of a much loved Sunday School teacher, placed therein by her class of boys, Miss May Archer, daughter of Rev. Joseph Archer. Another was in memory of a former choir-leader, James Ferguson, who gave his life in the Great War. This window was unveiled by Sidney Seeley, a prominent choir member, who soon after met a tragic death in a gravel-pit cave-in.

The impressive dedicatory service was presided over by Rev. G. R. Clare, pastor in charge. At the re-opening of the church in 1921, upwards of 1,000 people who attended were served a delicious fowl dinner.



Women's Missionary Society

This Society was organized nearly fifty years ago, November 12, 1891, during the pastorate of Rev. B. and Mrs. Greatrix. The names of the eleven charter members are not known. The first officers were:

President.....	Mrs. W. George Prouse
Vice-President.....	Miss Lottie Davidson
Recording Secretary.....	Miss Phena Allin
Treasurer.....	Miss Mary Sailes

Probably the other members were Mesdames Seth Metherell, J. B. Weldon, Thos. Wallis, Richard Smith, E. Z. Yerex, James Blewett, Richard Greenway.

There are now—an Evening Auxiliary and Mission Band, with Miss McKay as President and Mrs. P. Prouse, Leader; a Baby Band, Mrs. Eli Hill, President; an Afternoon Auxiliary, Mrs. Hillis, President, Mrs. J. W. Henderson, Vice-President, Mrs. M. A. Goard, Rec. Sec., Mrs. R. Oliver, Cor. Sec., and Mrs. John Connor, Treasurer. A. C.G.I.T. Society is affiliated with the Women's Missionary Society, with Mrs. Stuart Chidley as Leader.



New Year's Tea at Little Britain Church

To properly appreciate this great special event of every year, one should recall a really old-fashioned, snapping cold, gloriously moon-lit night in the country, the snow lying in great white banks even with the fences on both sides of the road. To this picture add all the cutters and long sleighs available, drawn by sleek, well-fed horses decorated

with strings of jingling bells, to convey whole families or loads of young people from a radius of at least ten miles around, to enjoy themselves at the New Year's Tea. This was served at six o'clock, followed by a programme in the auditorium at eight. At the height of its popularity provision was made to serve more than 1,000 people.

To accommodate all who listened to the programme, two rows of benches were placed in each aisle from front to rear, the over-flow just standing round as close as possible. However, it was the Tea, and the social re-union in the basement that held the greatest interest. Friends from a distance, home for Christmas, tried always to be present, to renew acquaintances and greet old friends.

To begin with attractions—everyone had free access to the basement, to come and go as desired, to meet and talk to all as often and for as long as was possible in the crowd. It was of course very congested, but all were happy and good-natured. Ten tables were placed on trestles and gaily decorated, and by this time forty waiters were arranging best china and glassware brought from their homes. From experience these young people—not always the same each year—had become wonderfully adept in serving, fleet-footed in bringing plates of provisions from the supply room (the primary classroom) and nimble-witted in jollying their way through the crowd with pitchers of steaming hot water or tea, or pans of dishwater to be disposed of outside. Sometimes slight accidents occurred, but the next year would find everyone on hand again.

The committee in charge was very systematic, having calculated to a dozen the number of each article to be provided, where to be made, where cooked, where stored, and in what quantities to be given out to the waiters from the supply-room. Mr. S. H. Metherell cut the ham, because he could cut it as thin as a wafer. He also made all the pastry dough, while under Mrs. Soper's supervision others of the committee rolled it out, put it on plates and filled them. Young girls took them to different houses to be baked, returned and put on shelves. One hundred and twenty pies was a standard at one time. One filling was dried apples, stewed, mixed with liberal supply of sugar and currants and a little cinnamon.

Mrs. Samuel Metherell (Uncle Samuel), at her home supervised the making of fruit cakes, of which there was always one on a cake-stand in the middle of each table, with extras to cut up for the first sittings at the tables. The cakes were iced and decorated with tiny pink and white candies. Mrs. Richard Smith with the members of her committee made all the tea cookies. Delicious soft ginger-snaps were made under the capable eye of Mrs. Seth Metherell, now 92 years of age. Her recipe is still used.

Mrs. John Dix found her brick oven—which held sixteen loaves—just the thing for loaf-cakes. Railroad cakes and turnovers were prepared in the same way.

Besides these all the bread, butter and meats had to be prepared in the homes, but the result was abundance for all who came. It was felt to be quite a disgrace if a supply of any one article failed before all were satisfied.

For two hours the crowd wandered about, visiting and greeting old friends and meeting new ones. Then at eight o'clock everyone was asked to go upstairs, leaving only forty tired waiters and the other committees hoping for a chance to eat something themselves before clearing up.

Later when it was decided to allow only enough downstairs to fill the tables and little or no visiting could be done, much of the enjoyment was lost. Times changed and the New Year's Tea was a thing of the past, to remain a bright spot in the memory of old times.



Cemetery

A touching little story is told concerning the first interment made in this cemetery. The inscription on the tombstone, somewhat dark with age—Melissa Mark, died Apr. 15, 1840, aged 1 year 5 mos. The story—The site for a cemetery had been chosen near what is now the John Wickett farm on the 6th concession, through which a trail led south-east, a distance of about two miles away. When Melissa died her mother could not bear the thought of having her little girl buried up there in the woods and begged her husband to lay her remains down by the little Siloam Chapel on their own farm. Apparently there was then a small clearing at this place.

On October 4, 1840, a neighbour, Moses Glenney, aged 57, died just three months after landing in Canada with his family from Ireland, and he was buried near the other small grave.

The extent of the first ground donated by John Mark is not known, but as additional plots became necessary more ground was secured. Mr. Mark now lies there with nearly one hundred others of the family relatives. In 1936 a strip of land was added to the west and south and the fence extended with gate and driveway.

There is no record of any care being bestowed upon this last resting-place of so many pioneers, except an occasional mowing with a scythe. The old part was overrun by a weed called grave moss, which may have at some time been planted as a flower. This condition was unchanged for 69 years, until 1909, when the Ladies' Aid Society appointed a committee to interview the church trustees, who control the property,

to urge them to take some instant, definite action toward improving it, so that it might no longer be a disgrace to the community, and worse still, dishonor the memory of the splendid people who lay buried there. The trustees, who must endorse all that is done, appointed a mixed committee, giving them power to act, using their judgment in methods to effect a real reform. Letters to all interested whose addresses could be secured, explained the object in view and asked their co-operation. The response was most satisfactory, the many small gifts received totaling a nice sum. The grounds were levelled, cleared of weeds and re-seeded, and a good fence with gates built along the front. And for nearly thirty years the grass has been kept cut during the summer months.

To defray expenses a fee of \$1.00 is charged for a full plot and 50c. for a half-plot, for the individual care. It is hoped that in the near future every family will take advantage of this offer and secure such attention. In 1921 the executors of the late Philip S. Mark's estate made an offer to the cemetery committee to accept \$25.00 and use the income for perpetual care of their parents' plot. This was accepted, thus marking the beginning of an endowment scheme. At the present time more than fifty plots are under perpetual care, and—three generous people having enriched the fund by \$500.00—the endowment fund in 1939 totals \$2,366.00.

In 1916 it was decided to hold an annual Memorial Service on the first Sunday in July, also making it a Decoration Day. The service is simple, a short address, a few hymns, and suitable music from the Little Britain band, and then time is spent visiting the graves and admiring the floral offerings in memory of loved friends. Seven Union Jacks remind us of the sacrifice some families made during the Great War. Every year hundreds are welcomed by the committee and members of the church, on this one day of dedication to those gone before. Each year the committee tries to add beauty to the cemetery by planting trees and shrubs, and straightening stones that may have become unbalanced during the winter. They are well repaid for their trouble by the words of appreciation and commendation voiced by the many who attend the annual Decoration Service, especially those coming from a distance.

Officers in 1909

Chairman.....	Dr. G. W. Hall
Vice-Chairman.....	R. S. Robertson
Rec. Secretary.....	W. G. Prouse
Treasurer.....	Richard Smith
Cemetery Officer.....	John Yeo

Officers in 1939

Chairman.....	William Stacey
Treasurer.....	C. H. Netherton
Secretary.....	Mrs. W. W. Sloan
Cemetery Officer.....	Wesley Cornish

Mr. Cephas B. Mark, a druggist (son of Joseph and grand-son of James Mark) and former M.P.P. of Saskatchewan, where he did pioneer work, retired to Lindsay on his return to Ontario, and has given valuable practical help to the cemetery committee, of which he became a member. At his suggestion records of all burials since 1840 have been searched out and entered in detail in a very fine volume provided for the purpose, and judging from its quality and size it should last forever. This volume is always ready for perusal on Decoration Day. In addition to this there is a smaller index book, from which it may be ascertained if the name desired is in the Record Book, indexed alphabetically. Mr. Mark has also drawn maps for the use of the officers of the committee, and his help has been much appreciated by all. Up to date 663 burials have been recorded.

Readers are invited to confer with the cemetery committee regarding desired entries, for it is quite certain there are a number still unknown.



Wesleyan Methodist Church

In earlier days the Wesleyan Methodists held their services in the old Orange Hall one mile and a half south of the village. In time the accommodation became inadequate so the Official Board met and decided to build a more commodious brick building in the south part of the village (where John Connor's house now stands). The building committee included Isaac Hardy, Joseph Maunder, Robert Henderson, John Campbell and others.

The church was built in 1870 and opened and dedicated with special services on Christmas Day. Oakwood choir assisted in the service of song, rendering two beautiful anthems, *The Lord is My Shepherd*, and *Behold, What Manner of Love*. Large congregations attended all services. On Monday the church dinner was served in a large local hall (the ball-room of the hotel).

A local church choir was organized, with Miss Annie Ray as organist. Choir members included Albina Fursier, Sarah Ann Sloan, Lottie Sloan, Melissa Culbert, Mary Ann ('Tan) Culbert, Minnie Ray, Mrs. W. H. Pogue, Hattie McWatters, W. H. Pogue, Sam Maynard, Wesley Sloan, R. S. Robertson, William Pedlar, with John Mallett as leader. As time passed other organists were appointed—Sarah Ann Sloan and Lottie Sloan, with Hiram H. Brown as leader, and new members were added to the choir.

At stated times, as appointed by conference, different ministers came and took up the work—Rev. Savage, Barltrop, Burns, Campbell, McDowell, Curts, Doxsee, Balfour, Fallis, Dunlop, Chambers and others. The ministers were stationed at Oakwood, and each Sunday would drive to Tabor, just north of Valentia, for morning service, back to Little

Britain for afternoon meeting and to Oakwood for the evening gathering. There were, as usual, prayer meetings to attend, as well as other pastoral duties.

Following are the names of representatives of some families who attended the Methodist Church at this time: I. Hardy, J. Maunder, J. Campbell, R. Henderson, T. Foster, G. Stokes, N. Thomas, F. Williams, J. Ramsay, I. Finley, J. Williams, J. C. Campbell, I. Irwin, W. H. Pogue, R. Irwin, E. Smith, William and Edward Jackson, William Galbraith, W. Rowe, J. Kelly and others.

To raise funds for the church's needs, i.e. the minister's salary, Bible Society and missionary work, members were asked every quarter to donate what they could. Many gave donations of produce and this would be accounted in their subscriptions. Concerts, lectures and socials or tea-meetings were held as a social side of church work. The members worked as a whole with committees appointed from the congregation. Before the annual congregational tea-meeting, members of the committee canvassed all the homes and received donations or promises of cooked provisions or money to be handed in later. Sometimes the committee left a list of what they would like to have prepared, and all was freely and gladly given.

Special evangelistic services were held during the year in which great interest was shown. By this means membership was increased to a considerable extent, and the usefulness of the services was marked by added activities. As a get-together spirit grew, it was suggested that a Camp Meeting be held in an open bush north-east of Oakwood. These meetings lasted from one to two weeks, services being held daily, including evenings, and were attended by people from miles around. Different ministers had charge of the services. Cabins and tents were erected near the seating space for sleeping quarters and supplies needed by those coming from a distance, many of whom remained during the whole period. The service was an inspiration to the minister and very helpful to those attending.

A few years later another Camp Meeting was held in the bush a few rods north of Hogg and Lytle's elevators. Hundreds attended the meetings from far and near. Many will recall the romance of Rev. James McMullen, then at Oakwood, and Miss Emma Sailes, one of Little Britain's favourite young ladies, who gave her services as organist for the meetings. To Mr. McMullen fell the duty of driving Miss Sailes back and forth each day. Eventually they were married and by their united efforts good work was accomplished on several circuits.

As Tabor has been mentioned, we shall here give names of a few who were active workers and members during the Methodist regime. Thos. and Mrs. Webster, who entertained the minister for dinner after the morning meeting; Messrs. Casey, Moffatt, Jordan, Sharp, Jarwood, Swain, Mark, Suggitt, W. Pogue, Moore, Hobbs, Grills, Stewart, Farrell, J. B. Emerson, Ray, Oliver, Wills and others, with their families. Some

years after the Union of 1884, Shiloh Bible Christian and Tabor Wesleyan Methodist congregations united and built the present brick church at Valentia in 1889, just fifty years ago.



Christian Church

Two years previous to the building of the Bible Christian Church, the denomination called Christian built a log church which was the first in the settlement. It was situated just east of what is now Mr. M. A. Goard's store, on the north side of the street. Among the first members were John and Harrison Haight. The former probably donated the site as he owned that farm of 100 acres in 1847, and sold 99½ acres in 1849 (Victoria County Records). Other members were James Roadhouse, Obadiah Rogers, Hezekiah Noble, Daniel Noble, John Parkinson, William Culbert and others who previously had held meetings in their homes.

In the "Life of Elder Thomas Henry" written by his daughter-in-law, it is stated that in May, 1843, he visited Mariposa coming from Whitby and attended a meeting where he administered communion to a large number, more than half of whom were Methodists. Elder Albert Henry, a son of Thomas, was later in charge of the work here, first as a young man, when he boarded at Mr. Culbert's—a former acquaintance, and some years later was in full charge for quite a time. A street, with a bridge across the stream, was now made, running north and south, and named King Street. The crossing before this was at the mill-dam. In 1850 the location of the church was changed, when R. F. Whiteside, Sr. donated a site at the north-east corner of his farm—a choice location.

The officials of the church have apparently prized the records of their work since that time, for we find a list of the names of the people who subscribed cash, labour or supplies for building the new church. The list includes R. F. Whiteside, Sr., Obadiah Rogers, D. T. Eck, John G. Ford, Richard Walton, A. Gates, Theo. Wakefield on order of James Hilborn, John Parkinson, Isaac Yerex, John Lloyd, William Tool, John Mitchell, Mark Schell, William Western, William Thomas, John Culbert, Abel Hilborn, George Culbert, Henry Culbert, Francis Sawdon, Isaac Hilborn. Proceeds—\$380.00.

A comfortable white frame church, 30 feet by 40 feet was built, which for more than sixty years remained in constant use and a familiar land-mark on entering the village. All regretted when it became necessary in 1914 to provide better accommodation. The church was then turned partly around, facing the street, and twelve feet added in length. Memorial windows were installed, modern seats, electric light, piano, and a bell in the belfry, and the commodious basement was fitted up for Sunday School and meeting purposes.

A partial list of ministers includes the names of Elders Nathan Dale, Mason Rogers, Coulsay, Shoults, Solomon Prosser, Willoughby, William Cowle, Pilkie, Garbutt, Ruttan, Hainer (who had seven sons in the ministry), Morton, Van Norman, Cameron.

The church conference was held here in 1907 and 1917. Special religious services were held once a month, on Saturday. Yearly June meetings were held in the grove adjoining the church grounds, when visiting speakers were heard, special music was provided, and a bountiful supper served. Baptismal services were frequently held, sometimes at the mill-pond, at other times in the stream, when applicants were immersed. This occasionally took place during the winter.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1860. A few of the superintendents were Daniel Noble, Rev. Morton, Albert Henderson, and the present officer, Robt. Kelley.

When the choir was first started, a melodeon was used. Organists were Mrs. Jane Andrews, Mrs. A. E. Vrooman, Emma Sailes, Elizabeth Glenney, Mary Ann Culbert, Mrs. W. Yeo, and at present, Mrs. Noble Dunn. Members of the choir at various times were Lydia Morgan, Della Wills, Maud Lloyd, Bella Rusland, Maggie Glenney, Bertha and Addie Pilkey, Lucy Prior, Mary and Clara Culbert, Jennie and Lottie Sloan, Lottie Yeo, Mrs. E. Dillman, Nina Dillman, Nellie Dillman, Myrta Culbert, Ben Pilkey, Peter Pilkey, Sherman and Am. Eck, W. W. Sloan, Will Morgan, E. Dillman, W. J. Yeo, A. Prosser, John A. Yeo, William Deshane, Mahlon Culbert and Ed. Rich.

A Ladies' Aid Society was organized by Elder Ruttan, with the following officers: President, Mrs. Ruttan; Secretary, Mrs. R. F. Whiteside, Jr.; Treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Yeo.

One outstanding custom of this church was the annual watch-night service, held at 10.30 p.m. on December 31st, to usher in the New Year. This was always attended by a number of Methodists. A rather humorous story is told by the daughter of David Culbert. Always regular in his attendance on similar occasions, he harnessed his usually spirited team of horses in readiness to take the family to the meeting. All preparations being completed, they lay down to rest for a time, and falling asleep, they did not waken until 2 a.m.

Numerous social activities, such as suppers, concerts, and plays, were also sponsored by these good people. For a number of years a concert was held about Christmas time when the usual Christmas Tree, with its lovely gifts, was a pleasing feature. The different churches usually co-operated, and did not have such celebrations conflict.

One authority states that the parsonage home of most of the Elders for many years was erected for one of the first doctors in this place, and Frank Morgan lived there at one time. Situated on a hill above Little Britain Creek and overlooking much of the village, it has indeed a choice location.

The land donated for the cemetery, and adjoining the church grounds, was first used when twins, infant children of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Whiteside, Sr., were buried there in 1848, while the trees were still standing. The first woman interred there was Mrs. James Roadhouse, the date not known, but believed to be about the same time. A Mrs. Anna Bell Clayton and her quintuplets also lie buried in the Christian Cemetery, probably in the plot of Mr. Walton, her brother-in-law, who married Mrs. Clayton's sister. Like many rural cemeteries, it had little care until in 1890 Elder Albert Henry undertook to improve and beautify this God's Acre. Since then a cemetery committee has carried on his work, making of it a very beautiful resting place for the people of that denomination as well as many others. An endowment fund provides for all care of the grounds. The first cemetery committee included as Chairman, R. F. Whiteside, and as Secretary-Treasurer, W. J. Yeo. The present officers are: Honorary President, R. F. Whiteside; President, A. H. Noble; and Secretary-Treasurer, W. J. Yeo.

In 1926 the members and adherents of the church decided it was best to close the church, owing to deaths, removals and other causes. However, ten years later it was formally reopened, with Rev. Mr. Percy of Toronto Bible College in charge; it is now known as the Christian Congregational Church, having united with the Congregationalists of U.S.A. Rev. G. Brown is the present minister.



"Scholar and Teacher in Little Britain Schools"

Joanna Prior Whiteside

"The former teacher taught Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic to the tune of The Duncce's Cap and The Hickory Stick. But in the new building on an ideal site, Miss Joanna Prior was secured as teacher. In after years her pupils followed her as principals and teachers and were very successful. Her regime lasted a number of years and was marked by moral suasion and kindness."—H. McW. R.



Joanna Prior Whiteside

I came to Canada from Devonshire, England, with my family in 1855. The ocean voyage by sailing ship lasted six weeks. The river journey from Montreal to Whitby was long and slow, the wood-burning steamer calling at every small port for fuel, freight and passengers. From Whitby we drove to Mariposa. A first concern after arrival was that interrupted school work should be resumed.

We found ourselves in a one-roomed log school house at the four corners above Little Britain, where the re-modelled building still

stands as the Yeo cottage. There were both boys and girls, and all ages from little tots to young men and women. The teacher was young, ambitious and irascible. Doubtless he had been trained in the harsh discipline of the time and he had bettered the instruction. In addition to the customary floggings, he used notched, wooden gags to fit the pupils' mouths, would twirl and throw his heavy pointer at an offender, or slash a careless hand resting on a desk, instead of kept below it, until the flesh might be laid open. After one boy had worn the gag until he could not shut his mouth when it was removed, and another boy's head had been grazed by the pointer that remained bedded in the wall behind, the trustees intervened and there was some improvement. The scholars' games in play hour reflected the temper of the time. "War" was the favourite. The Crimean War being in progress, "Russians" and "English" drew up on either side of a little ravine to force each other down the steep sides; in mid-winter when the ravine was full of snow, this game was especially popular.

I had known only schools for girls, kept in a private house, where great stress was laid on fine handwork; sewing, knitting, embroidery, etc., and the severest punishment might be to have to sit or walk or go up or down steps with a little workbasket of spools on one's head. This gave training in deportment as well, and if in careless posture we allowed the basket to fall, we received as many slaps on our hands as there were spools in the basket. The change in schools, as in everything else in the new country, was bewildering. But I was eager to succeed, and when the school was called up for spelling I felt that at last I was on sure ground. It was not long before I had spelled correctly a word that the others had missed and went from the foot to the top of the class. There was a head boy, however, who had the privilege of sitting at the master's desk. He said his sister had been the first to spell the word correctly and I was sent down again. No one seemed to question his judgment. This was the climax of that unhappy day. Rushing home, I sobbed out "Mother, I have seen the handsomest boy in the world! But I hate him! I hate him! I hate him!" That head boy's name was Will Whiteside.

We had two easy-going teachers the next two years, teachers who were not cruel, but neither did they bring on their pupils. The fourth master was John MacNabb, who later became a Presbyterian minister and was sent as a missionary to the new Red River settlement in Manitoba. He was all that a teacher ought to be—wise, kind, upright and energetic. I attended Zion school for a time and Oakwood High School, and after teaching on an interim certificate, attended the Normal School in Toronto, under Dr. Sangster.

In 1868 I was engaged as teacher for the new brick school in Little Britain. The decision on the part of the trustees had not been reached easily; of the three trustees, Mr. Butler was in favour; Mr. John Dix opposed; and Mr. R. F. Whiteside perplexed. The school on the present site had only been built a year and was the pride of the community. Much of the teacher's time the previous year had been spent

in contests of wits and physical prowess with the older boys or young men—sometimes the teacher ejecting and locking out the pupils, and quite as often the pupils ejecting and locking out the teacher. It was a daring innovation to appoint a young woman to such a post.

The school had one room. The attendance averaged from 80 to 100. The total enrollment might reach almost 200. There was no school at the station as at present, and scholars came long distances. The older scholars could rarely attend more than about three months in the year. They could not enter in the Fall until the last of the potato-digging, ploughing and threshing had been done and had to leave with the running of the first sap in Spring. But many were eager for advancement, and I was accustomed to having young men older than myself as scholars in my earlier years of teaching.

There was no thought then of having a janitor. The teacher and scholars kept the fires, swept, dusted and scrubbed the schoolroom. I lit the fires myself at first, then later out of my \$200 salary hired one of the boys. A serious tax on the teacher, at that time of no nurses, was the accepted understanding that in cases of illness she should take her turn in sitting up at night to care for a sick child. This was very trying in, for instance, a scarlet fever epidemic.

The trustees soon realized that the task was too great for one person and appointed a pupil-teacher. Moses Metherell, who had come from English schools, was engaged to teach the smallest children and to set all the copy lines on slates and in copy books. In a year or two a second room was added as a wing to the south, and a second teacher installed. One of these teachers was Frank Whitlock, who later was one of the highly regarded clergymen of Cleveland.

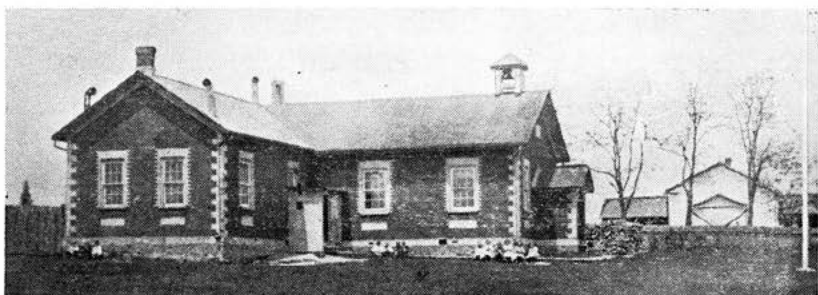
At that time Public Examinations were the custom. Once a year was gala day, when parents and friends crowded the school and some outstanding person, previously invited to be Visitor, examined the scholars in the presence of the company. It was equally the pride of teacher and scholars to come off with flying colours. I can still see the many sparkling eyes and flushed cheeks as various pupils flashed back their answers.

The scholars grew to be very proud of their school, both for its scholarship and appearance. The grounds were raked, flower beds planted, a flagged walk laid down to the gate. Spring work was no small matter, inside and out, when the big boys regularly cleaned not only the chimney and stove pipes, but the well. There was always a little trouble about the well. If we had water, the Jimmy Brown's had to sink their well deeper, which left us without. Then the school well would have to be sunk a few feet, and so it went on. Mr. Henry Reazin, the inspector, gave the Little Britain school the highest rating in the county, so of course that set a standard none of us were willing to have lowered.

Each year brought new projects for improvements I was eager to carry out, but "the handsomest boy in the world", now a doctor in a distant village, did not share my enthusiasm, which seemed to be leading along a road that had no end. So, in the summer of 1874 my resignation was sent in, and a wedding in the little white church above the school ended my career as a teacher, but never could change my love of teaching. To-day, as I approach my ninety-ninth birthday, I recall those years—and the boys and girls that peopled them—with keen interest and affection, and one of my greatest pleasures still is the receiving of messages and tokens of remembrance from them.



Schools



The Old School

As nearly all the industries involved in providing necessities for the homes of the early settlers, were practised, more or less, by every family—men for the out-door occupations and their wives for house-keeping and caring for the family, it was very important that from an early age every child should shoulder certain responsibilities to ease as much as possible the burden on the older members of the family. For this reason the school term for the majority of these young pioneers was very short. Distance, and the difficulties of weather and travel also would dampen their enthusiasm, but the parents were anxious that their children should have the best possible education under the existing circumstances.

Notes from a diary state that about 1846 a Mariposa School was situated on the hill two furlongs ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile) north of what is now Mariposa Station. The situation is described as S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$, N. $\frac{1}{2}$, L. 16, Con. 7. This was the first school available for the children of the early settlers whose names are mentioned in another article.

Teachers varied, then as now. One is described as "a cultured gentleman"; another as "a refined young lady"; while others are said

to have resorted to such "severe measures of discipline" as were considered necessary at that time. Much credit is due to all who, under all the existing disadvantages, secured even a limited education. A list of teachers in the Mariposa School, compiled some years later by Dr. W. N. Whiteside, is as follows: Annis Jones, John Lundy, A. Haley, J. Morgan, —. Holoway, John Bettes, Morgan Baxter, Alex. Cameron, G. B. Christie, Wilbur F. Adams, —. Foster, Allan Chisholm and Anthony B. Vardon; the latter boarded with Mrs. James Metherell. Some of these may have taught in the early years of the second school-house, built one mile north of Little Britain.

In 1854 the Clergy Reserves were put on the market and the proceeds used for educational, library and municipal purposes. This, and the need for better accommodation, may have led to the building in that year of a new, large, one-roomed log school-house nearer to Little Britain. Details of the transaction, taken from the Deed given at that time are:

"Bought from James and Mary Metherell, for School Site, No. 8 Mariposa, 17th day of November, 1854, by Trustees

Obadiah Rogers

Abraham Hilborn

Robert Ferguson Whiteside (Sr.)

Witnesses—John Blewett, blacksmith

James Blewett, blacksmith

S.E. Corner, Lot 15, Concession 6, Mariposa, a lot 4 rods from S.E. angle of the lot, 50 feet west, 100 feet north, 50 feet east, 100 feet south. Boundaries were: On North, Concession 8; on South, Cartwright Township; on West, Lot 9; on East, Ops Township."

On this was built a school-house 28 feet by 28 feet. Desks were built around the room facing the walls, with the benches nearer the middle where there were backless benches for smaller pupils, grouped around a heater. Because of this arrangement, the windows had to be placed quite high in the walls and were narrow vertically and long horizontally. Teachers mentioned as having charge in this building were E. S. Wiggins, Mary A. Spaulding, Miss Beamish and W. C. Sanders. In 1867 it was decided to change the school site to Little Britain Village, and in 1869 the old building was sold to William Yeo, Sr., by Trustees John Butler, R. F. Whiteside, Sr., and James Smith, the transaction being witnessed by John Broad, merchant, of Little Britain. It was renovated and fitted up as a residence and has been used for many years by members of the family. While the interior has been changed and an addition made to one side, also a verandah, the old building still stands complete. Some windows and cupboards remain as they were originally, but others have been changed. In making an alteration a few years ago it was necessary to cut through an elm log about 12 inches square. This was done with a cross-cut saw, through a solid log without a splinter and showed no sign of decay. Some of the logs nearer

the earth have gone a little, but in general the timber appears as firm as when it was put in nearly 100 years ago.

In 1867 a large one-roomed brick school-house was built on the edge of the village, an ideal site with spacious grounds, and having in the background acres of glorious bush-land to which the children had free access. The boundaries of the school section had decreased as the inhabitants increased, and in 1867 extended over approximately 4,500 acres on Concessions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. In 1864 the ratepayers of School Section No. 8 bought one acre of land for \$100, and the Deed was given in 1865. At a meeting held in the home of John Kelly, Little Britain, on January 10th, 1867, it was resolved by Trustees James Smith, John Dix and R. F. Whiteside, Sr., that tenders be submitted for a new school-house, to be built that year. On January 22nd the tender of Sailes and Smith, to build a brick school-house 42 feet by 28 feet at a cost of \$950.00, was accepted.

The number of children between the ages of 5 and 16 at that time was 125, the population 448, and the schools in the township 22. The Chief Superintendent of Schools was Rev. Egerton Ryerson, and the Local Superintendent for the Township, Samuel Irwin. The Township Council consisted of John Clark, R. F. Whiteside, John Cullis, Stephen Dundas, John S. Cruess. On May 11th, 1867, the cornerstone of the new building was laid, in the presence of John Kelly, Architect; R. F. Whiteside, James Smith and John Dix, Trustees; W. C. Sanders, Teacher; William White and Thomas Ball, Builders, and others. There were deposited in the cornerstone Canadian coins of the then reigning monarch, it being the thirtieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, also a number of newspapers of the day, and a Canadian Almanac.

Now occurs a break in the history, from 1867 to 1876, and it is thought that the records for that period may have been destroyed in the Little Britain fire some years ago. Mr. Sanders probably taught to the end of 1867, as Miss Joanna Prior was engaged for 1868 and resigned in 1874. She said decidedly on her 98th birthday that she was not really the first.

Little Britain School — 1874-1939. The first addition, of which there is no record, was made soon after the school was opened. A third room was added in 1877. The following are extracts from Minutes:

January 30th, 1877—At a meeting of ratepayers for the purpose of providing more school accommodation, it was decided to build an extra wing, making it a three-roomed school. This was done at a cost of \$650. In the meantime ratepayers who were interested in the northern part of the district applied to the Council for a school to be erected on the seventh concession. The request was granted, despite the opposition of the Little Britain Trustees. The "North School" was then built and the result was that the third room at Little Britain was used for a very short time as a class-room but became a store-room for supplies.

February 21st, 1913—A general meeting agreed to tear down the old building and on the same site erect a new up-to-date brick building at a cost of \$8,190. This was done, and a ceremonial opening was held on February 10th, 1914.



John Watson
(Principal - 1939)

September, 1924—A Grade "C" Continuation School was introduced, which shortly after was changed to Grade "B." The Department of Education granted the privilege of furnishing a basement room in the school building as temporary quarters, until the School Board saw how this new addition would work out, with the understanding that permanent accommodation would be provided later if the classes were continued. Mr. Mosure was Principal of the Continuation School; Miss Robertson, the Principal of the Public School, also assisted in the Continuation School, and Miss Orchard was the Public School assistant.

June 29th, 1927—Continuation classes were so successful that it became necessary to add accommodation and instructions were given to proceed with plans for enlargement.

March 23rd, 1928—The school-house was burned during the night.

March 24th, 1928—Arrangements were made to provide temporary quarters for the pupils of the three class-rooms. It was decided to use the Community Hall, where good rooms and heating were available; the Continuation School classes occupied the stage and auditorium, the Public School classes occupying the Committee Rooms on the street floor. Mr. C. B. Kennedy received the contract at \$31,720 for building a four-roomed school, which was formally opened on February 15th, 1929. Trustees—Bentley Faithful, Everett Mark, G. C. R. Hall, M.D., and J. S. Dix, Secretary-Treasurer. With the exception of Mr. Faithful, who resigned two years ago, and was replaced by F. S. Chidley, the same School Board is still in office (1939).

The recreation grounds have been enlarged twice, to the south, where a fine level tract was secured for sports, and at the west, where one and a quarter acres of beautiful bush makes a very lovely little park. This latter addition was the gift of Dr. George W. Hall, a member of the School Board of S.S. No 8 for fifteen years. The present grounds are considered to be among the most attractive in the county, and the school section is most fortunate in having such a public-spirited man in its midst, especially when it takes the form of a gift for the happiness and well-being of children of all ages, and for an indefinite future.

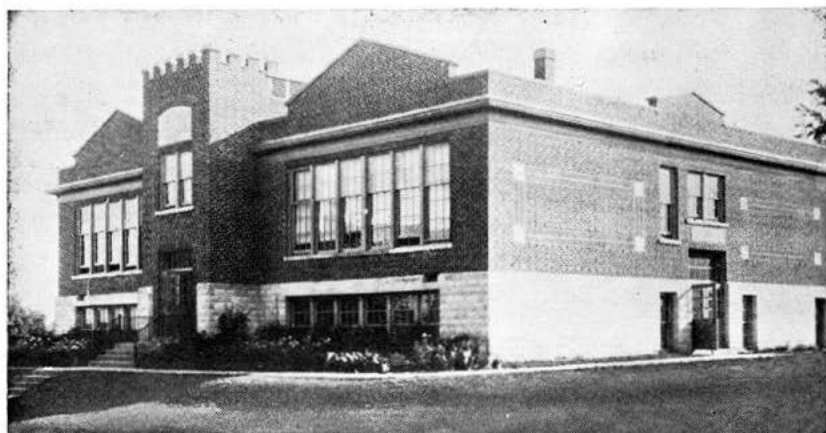
Much of the attractiveness of the school building and grounds must, with the co-operation of teachers and students, depend upon the school officer's care and his appreciation of beauty. Great credit is due Mr. Richard Avery, who was appointed to this position in 1927, and who in 1939 is still in charge. John Mark served for a number of years previous to 1927.

Teachers

1867-Last Term	W. C. Sanders.
1868-1874	Miss Joanna Prior.
1874-1876	J. C. Campbell.
1877-1886	Principals—J. C. Campbell, H. Fowler, P. H. Allin, J. J. Broad, George Pearce. Assistants—Misses Kells, Kate Clendenning, Hattie McWatters, Cora Powers, L. Broad, Ruth Purt, Hattie Finney.
1887-1896	Principals—George Pearce, William Ford, Thomas Birchard, Annie Dames, —. West, Charles Lapp. Assistants—Misses Hattie Finney, Clara Anderson, Rilla Finley, E. Moffat, Lydia Broad, Gertrude Elliott.
1897-1906	Principal—Charles Lapp. Assistants—Misses Ida Staples, Mabel Smith, Florence Nugent.
1907-1916	Principal—Charles Lapp. Assistants—Misses Florence Nugent, Lilian Merritt, Annie Metherell, Hazel Dix.
1917-1926	Principals—Charles Lapp, L. S. Mosure. Assistants—Misses Hazel Dix, Jean Fisher, H. Grant, H. Maud Yeo, M. Robertson, N. Orchard, D. Ross, M. Doherty.
1927-1939	Principals—Continuation School—L. S. Mosure, John Watson. Public School—E. A. Linton, C. Robert- son. Assistants—Continuation School—Misses Hazel Bell, I. McKay, Marie Guy. Public School—Misses Bronscombe, Ross, Prouse.

Mr. Chas. H. Lapp was Principal of Little Britain Public School for 29 years, from 1893 to 1922. He was an intensive teacher and exacted the same kind of service from the students. His attitude was that the pupils were put in his charge by their parents to receive all the education possible before reaching the age of fourteen, when many left school. This he proceeded to give thoroughly and conscientiously, urging as many as possible to pass the High School Entrance examination before reaching the age of fourteen, or younger if they could qualify, as many did. Also he very successfully trained a class for teachers' certificates, some members of this class being Mabel Smith, Millie Mark, Gertrude Garbutt, C. E. Mark, Ernest Allin.

The length of his service shows the esteem in which Mr. Lapp was held by the community, and an appreciation of his efforts by this quotation from an ex-pupil, now a professional man—"It would have been a great help to me later, if I had had Mr. Lapp's training during my last year at Public School." (Entrance)



The New School

Eminent agriculturists and artisans, talented and cultured homemakers, were graduates of Little Britain Public School. Others who, at some time, were students, entered Colleges and Training Schools, to acquire higher education leading to various branches of public service.

In the following list of those no distinctive titles or degrees will be given as it was impossible to obtain an absolutely correct or complete list. It is also irregular as to time of graduation.

Physicians and Surgeons

William N. Whiteside	John Henderson	Henry Rogers
William T. Yeo	Wilton Glenney	George Ramsay
Harry Pearce	Claire Webster	William Burden
Fulton Vrooman	John Broad	Albert Metherell
Ethelbert Greenway	Charles Bonnell	Lloyd Hooper
William Blewett	George Parkinson	Bert Moore
G. C. R. Hall	Edwin Prouse	Robert Broad
		Walker Davidson

Nurses

Annie Snelgrove, Toronto Grace Hospital
 Philippa E. Mark, Worcester, Mass., U.S.A.
 C. Louisa Metherell, Worcester, Mass., U.S.A.
 Maud Dayton, Clifton Springs, U.S.A. (Nursing
 Sister during World War, 1916-18)
 Ella McC Calder, Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto
 Oda Weldon, Toronto General Hospital
 Florence Dix, Toronto General Hospital
 Edith Finley, Peterborough
 Roberta Heatlie, Montreal
 Ivy Culbert, Rochester
 Winnifred Perrin, Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto
 Helen Glenney, Toronto General Hospital
 Stella Roseburgh, Peterborough Doris Netherton, Lindsay
 Dorothy Robins, Lila Hooper, Muriel Mark, Nina Dillman

High and Public School Teachers

Philip Allin	Zetta Henderson	V. Rodman
Ernest Allin	Joe Jenkins	William Ramsay
Mary Brown	Mary Johnston	Fern Rich
Julia Broad	Cora King	George Rennie
William Broad	Henry Kenner	Marjorie Robbins
Lydia Broad	Mary Mallett	Vera Robertson
Beatrice Broad	Hattie McWatters	Nellie Sailes
Luella Broad	Olivia Mark	Laura Shafe
Stanley Brown	Harriet Mark	Miss Starr
Mary Blewett	Joseph Mark	Mabel Smith
Ross Culbert	Clarence Mark	Leila Sturt
Hazel Connor	Mildred Mark	Jean Tremear
Mary Cornish	Sophie Mark	Elizabeth Wickett
Meta Clare	Ida Mark	Irene Wickett
Helen Dix	George Metherell	Muriel Wickett
Marshal Dix	Melville Moase	Leonard Webber
Crystal Dix	Joanna Prior	Evelyn Webber
Ethelwyn Dix	Harriet Prior	Florence Weldon
Hazel Dix	Harry Pearce	Frank Weldon
Blanche Dix	George Pearce	Reta Williams
Sarah Ford	Julia Prouse	Maurice Wooldridge
William Ford	Margaret Prouse	Lida Whiteside
Rilla Finlay	Allan Prouse	Frank Whitlock
William Found	Peter Pilkey	William T. Yeo
Verna Ferguson	Lottie Parkinson	Chas. T. Yeo
Gertrude Garbutt	Annie Rodman	Norah J. Yeo
Marguerite Glenney	M. Rodman	

Lawyers

Fred Allin, Ed. Smith.

Jacob Whiteside, who was made Judge of Haliburton, Minden, and other places farther north.

Special Courses

At De Mille Ladies' College, Oshawa—Jane Metherell, the Misses Whiteside, Jennie Campbell, Mary Smith, Ada Broad, Stella Yerex.

At Ontario Ladies' College, Whitby—Leah Robertson, Lida Whiteside, Canada Whiteside, Minnie Davidson, Lottie Davidson.

Music at Conservatory or College—Louie Jenkins, Edna Greenway, Bruce Tremear.

Scientist

Jacob Whiteside, Jr.

Mills and Industries

In developing a wooded country such as was ours a century ago, a great deal of importance must necessarily have been attached to the lakes, rivers and streams, since most of the travel and transportation depended on the use of boats and canoes. Sawmills and grist mills were also absolute necessities.

Thus our enterprising first settlers—the Haight—lost little time in building, in 1837, a sawmill about one-half mile up the creek from what is now the village. It is said that the mill irons were made by Sam Lount, blacksmith, of Newmarket, who, with Mathews, was hanged in Toronto that same year because of his activities in the Mackenzie rebellion. Doubtless when forging out the irons he little thought he would so soon sacrifice his life in the cause of civil liberty, or that his leader, William Lyon Mackenzie, would return from exile to enjoy his seat in parliament.

As there were no mills near, it was necessary to bring the plank for the flume from Uxbridge. The middle bent of the mill was made of white oak, and—the beams and posts being 18 inches in diameter—it required the aid of all the men for miles around to raise it. The machinery was very simple, constructed mostly of wood, but proved a wonderful convenience to the people in the building of their first homes in the wilderness.

In 1842 the Haight, believing the world was about to come to an end, decided to sell their property. Mr. R. F. Whiteside, Sr., of Newmarket, was looking for a woollen mill and was informed there was a mill for sale in Mariposa. Arriving in Mariposa he discovered there were adjoining the sawmill two hundred acres, considerably improved, with three houses and two barns on the property. He was not a farmer and did not want the land, but in order to secure the mill he was obliged to buy the farm as well, this afterward proving to be a profitable investment. He then installed in the mill the necessary machinery for carding wool into rolls, spinning and weaving cloth. This carding mill served the country round for many years.

The settlers would first wash their sheep in a creek or pond, then shear the wool off their backs by hand with sheep shears, a kind of clippers. Then perhaps the good wife would invite a few of the neighbour women to a "picking bee", when they would pull the wool apart until it was fluffy. It was then oiled or greased, and tied into a big bundle and taken to Whiteside's mill to be made into rolls, etc. Sometimes a woman would go from house to house, spinning the rolls into yarn, later to be used by the farmers' wives to knit socks and mitts for the family, or for the weaving of blankets, or flannel for dresses. The writer remembers wearing a flannel dress to school, and had a nice plaid pressed flannel one "for best".

About 1840 Mr. Golden built a mill on a creek later named Davidson's Creek, about two miles east of the village. A man named Ray

built the dam. Later Samuel Davidson, Sr., secured this property and carried on a custom mill business, grinding wheat with the old-fashioned stones and taking as "toll" a part of the grain. He sold to John Cullis, who greatly improved the property. Filman Andrews was the first miller and Wm. Rich drove his delivery team. He bought wheat and sent it to market. Now and then a flat-boat or scow was sent downstream, loaded with flour, etc., for Port Perry or Lindsay. On one of these trips a man named Irwin was drowned. His children, Mary, Jane and Nelson, later attended No. 17 school with a number of others at the mill, which at this time had quite a population. There was a tavern kept by Wm. Dodd; John Ford, who had a tailor shop, went from house to house to make men's suits; a cobbler made and mended shoes; a cooperage was conducted by John Kennedy, father of our local postmaster and contractor, Laurie and Charlie Kennedy, and with Fred Fisher made flour barrels (196 pounds), pork barrels and butter tubs. Sucker fishing was an event of great interest every spring at the mill, and the "catch" helped out considerably with the family food supply. After Cullis's mill was burned he moved away, the mill being later rebuilt by Davidson. The latter gave employment to quite a number, getting oak timber to market. This, in the form of staves, was marketed abroad.

Farther downstream, below the junction of Britain and Davidson's Creeks, Jonathan Hodgins (who married a Glenney) ran a steam shingle mill on the farm later owned by Wm. Glenney and now by Wilfred Kitson. Hodgins was also reeve of the township at one time. In the early days of Little Britain village there were a number of mills and industries, giving employment to many. Turzan McDonald had a chair factory in what was then the Rogers' mill, and is now the residence of Wm. Mitchell. In 1867 Rogers ran a turning lathe by one-horse-tread power. John Murley and son William had a similar business, only run by steam, on the south side of the creek above the bridge.

Glass and Lobb operated a rake factory in the Rogers' mill, later building on the north side of the creek, east of King Street. This business was taken over by Sables and Ramsay. They had a sawmill and manufactured hoe handles, fork handles, also scythes and oak grain cradles which were in great demand before reapers were invented. They also made hand rakes, and George Mallett, teamster, drove many miles through the country delivering them. These were somewhat similar to our garden rakes of to-day, but were made entirely of wood, and used to gather the grain in bundles which in turn were tied in sheaves by a band of straw. To the boys and girls of to-day it would be an interesting sight, for it took a smart man to rake and bind the grain as fast as a man could cut it, and to cut six acres was considered a fine day's work, a day which ended at sundown.

The village mills also made bent stuff for sleigh runners of oak, also wooden revolving horse rakes, these being used to gather up the hay in windrows, and also to pull peas.

Isaac Finley formed a stock company and moved the grist mill from Port Hoover, for several years operating the same on the north side of the creek, before removing to Lindsay. Frank Brown built a shingle mill and planing factory on the site where Dr. Hall, Sr., now lives. He and his son, Hiram, also built five houses in the village. Joseph Maunder followed in the sash and door factory, and added a chopping mill which proved a great convenience to the farmers. Others who followed in the same place were F. Maunder, Caleb Mark, John Connor, and lastly Wilfred Hooper, who lost it by fire in 1930.

It was customary in those days to have a whistle on the different factories and mills, and we are told there was considerable rivalry, especially between the Rogers' factory and the other mill, as to which was louder. The whistles blew with wonderful regularity at 7 a.m., 12 or returning to work. They could be heard for miles, and were used as a fire alarm. Occasionally on Hallowe'en mischievous boys would gain entrance and tie a weight so the whistle would blow until the owner got out of bed and, considerably annoyed at the disturbance, remedied the situation.

Another industry was a foundry, operated by a Mr. Lewis and his son, in a building beside the Brown factory. Edwin Mark later had a similar industry at the south-west end of the village, and was succeeded by Isaac McKee, who transferred the business to his shop, where Dee King now has a chopping mill. Wm. Kelley, wagon-maker, had his shop and residence on the lot now owned by Wesley Wooldridge, where Bruce Wilson lives. A cheese factory was built by Parmenas Allin about half a mile south of the village on the Sloan farm. He later sold to O. J. B. Yearsley who operated it for a number of years. His summer quarters were above the factory. City Dairy purchased it for a butter factory. It was used only a short time, and is now a driving shed on noon, 1 p.m. and 6 p.m., when numbers of men were hurrying to meals the farm of Rex Brown.

This account of mills and industries in the early days does not seem complete without referring to the thriving lake-shore village of Port Hoover, about five miles south of Little Britain. We already referred to a grist mill which was removed from there, and we are told that at one time it also boasted a sawmill, three hotels, three stores, a grain warehouse, an Episcopal Methodist church and cemetery, and a number of residences. Now only 2 houses remain, the summer cottages of Mrs. E. Z. Yerex and Thos. Heatlie, Toronto.

Farmers for many miles around teamed their grain to this port, whence it was shipped by water on scows and boats to Port Perry, or in winter long lines of sleighs laden with grain could be seen wending their way over the ice to Port Perry or Caesarea, thence to Bowmanville, Oshawa and other points. Pioneers have told of starting with their load of grain at 3 a.m., returning the next night.

So many of the settlers availed themselves of the market at Port Hoover that teams would be lined up for some distance, awaiting their turn to unload their grain. One interesting story has been handed down about our late citizen, Amos Rogers. When a young man he and his brothers were noted for their great strength. Once he and his brother, Harvey, were waiting their turn at the warehouse at the lake port, after driving twelve miles or more over snow-filled roads. A smart chap drove in ahead of them, and when asked to pull out and take his place, refused. The Rogers boys walked up and taking hold of the sleigh, upset the entire load of bags. Raised Quakers, they were heard to remark—"Now will thee take thy turn?"

The first boat built at Port Hoover was the "Lady Ida" owned by Thomas Hoover, its captain, who was afterward drowned. Another tow-boat was the "Anglo-Saxon", built by Elias Rogers, son of Obadiah Rogers of this village. Elias also built one of the storehouses and kept a tavern. John Heatlie and Isaac Finley built the "Maple Leaf" and carried passengers and mail from Lindsay to Port Perry, with Captain I. Finley, Engineer Silas Jacobs, and Wm. Heatlie, now of this village, as fireman. The "Crandella" was another, carrying passengers and mail.

Dan Hoover kept a tavern and the post office. He also built a grist mill and he and Fred Shaver built a saw mill. A man named Jacobs kept a store. On leaving Little Britain, S. Casey Wood built a store at the port. In winter there were a number of stores, sometimes kept in the ballrooms of the taverns.

When the railroad was built through Mariposa to Lindsay in 1877, it killed the business at Port Hoover and also the boating business generally. Previously, for a number of years, there was regular passenger service between Lindsay and Port Perry, boats calling on schedule time at different points. Of course travelling by steamboat had its drawbacks, and was not always reliable.

During the World's Fair in Philadelphia in 1876, James Moffatt, Sr., of Valentia, and his neighbour, William Mark, with carpet bags in hand, set sail one morning from Plum Point on the north side of Lake Scugog for Port Perry, there to go by train to the Fair. Shortly after sailing, a fog settled over the lake, making it difficult for the vessel to keep its course. Toward evening the travellers were most relieved when they sighted a landing place, Plum Point, their starting place. They had bid their families goodbye in the morning, and not wishing to let them know, just then, that they had sailed all day in the fog on Lake Scugog, they were hospitably entertained for the night at Mr. Swain's. In the morning the fog had lifted and they proceeded on their journey.

Seventy Years Ago (1842)

*When I was a child I came over the sea,
With parents and sisters and brothers three;
They went into the wood, and not wishing to roam,
They cut down the trees, and built us a home.
The wolves were plenty, the bear and the deer,
But mostly too timid to come very near;
Then at night 't was needful to pen up the sheep,
To be safe from the wolf and the bear when we sleep.
There were fish in the stream, and game in the wood,
And each one might take whatever he could;
There were dewberries, strawberries and raspberries too,
Gooseberries and cranberries that made a good stew.
The sugar we made from the sap of a tree,
And honey was found with the wild honey bee;
The cattle had plenty, they could feed as they pleased,
And the pigs got fat on the nuts of the trees.
We cleared up the land,—I think of it now,
The scars on their hands, the sweat on their brow;
But their labour was blest, they got what was sought,—
A home for us all in a beautiful spot.
So everything prospered until father died,
And mother also was laid by his side;
They made the wilderness bloom as the rose,
Then folded their hands in sweet repose.*

—Written by Mrs. Hannah Mark Netherton
when she was 85 years of age.

Pioneers

The more we study the past the better we shall appreciate the present and realize the importance of our influence upon the well-being of the future.

Tribute must first be paid to the indomitable courage of the wives and mothers, who, leaving comfortable homes and benign climate of the home-lands, faced dangers of sea and land to establish homes, under unthought of deprivations and hardships, to obtain the advantages of the New World, for the future of their sons and daughters.

Second place, is richly deserved by the sons and daughters, who for many years, bravely struggled along side by side with their parents, working at whatever came to their hand to do, until the rich and fertile soil gave, back to them, rewards of grain and fruit, in great abundance. These young people, also often made great sacrifice, when times became more prosperous, to assist in educating one or more of the family, a privilege, that, then, could not be enjoyed by all. The fortunate few, perhaps of no keener intellect, showed their appreciation of the opportunity by economy and intensive study.

To those, and to pioneer men, heads of families, these little sketches are devoted with the sole idea of perpetuating their memory and honouring the principles carried out in their lives. While some have a few lines devoted to them and others, through lack of detail, may be only named, all are equally worthy of honour and are so regarded and presented to the readers.

Where possible those names have been grouped in the decades between 30's, 40's and 50's. Where no dates were available, or later than the 50's, no attempt has been made to conform to any order, but to present items of interest to all.

Some time before 1832 there came to Canada, as United Empire Loyalists, the family of Harrison Haight, Sr., from Brattleboro, Vermont. There were five children in all, three sons and two daughters—Harrison, Jr., John, Elijah, Phoebe and Lydia. Of these, the first two are known to have settled in this district.

HARRISON HAIGHT, JR., was closely associated with the early development of Little Britain. He is described as being a muscular and physically powerful man, well over six feet tall, and was thus well fitted for the rigours of life in a stern, new land. A keen intellect and high moral purpose also combined in him to produce a settler of value to the early community.



Harrison Haight

The Indians found in Harrison Haight a trusted friend. They would talk to him when they would not say a word to others. His home was always open to them and they entered without knocking. A locked door made them suspicious.

The present generation are not sure what was the nature of Harrison's responsibility concerning a large tract of timber land on the present site of Little Britain. It is known that he received a commission of one or two dollars an acre for land sold to settlers at four dollars and up according to location and quality of each purchase. Whether he owned or had an option on these several hundred acres, or was merely the agent, is a matter of question, but it is a sign of his trustworthiness and apparent education.

In those early days, when medical doctors were not always available, Harrison Haight set many broken bones, and he also made medicines from nature's herbs, for use among the sick of the community.

In spite of manual labour and business cares, the spiritual life of the settlement was not neglected. Harrison Haight was not an ordained minister, but became the "local preacher", with special license to perform marriages, officiate at funerals and conduct regular church services. Though very religious he did not adhere to any sect, but followed that which most appealed to him at the moment. In 1842 he became convinced that the world was coming to an end the following year.

This belief was the cause of several interesting incidents. One concerns a neighbourhood dispute over a logging chain, which had been borrowed and not returned. The irate owner followed the borrower to a religious service where Harrison was presiding, and demanded his property. The peace-loving preacher offered his new chain to preserve harmony. The offer was accepted only on the understanding that the matter would be adjusted between Harrison and the delinquent borrower. The former, being so certain that with the end of the world so near his need of logging chains would cease, let the matter slide, and was that much the poorer when time went on. One of the Glenney clan still tells how "Old Uncle Archie" chuckled for many years, saying, "By the end of the world I got my logging chain."

A still more serious application of this strange faith led to the sale of the Haight farm to R. F. Whiteside in 1842. Of the two hundred acres sold, the part owned by Harrison extended north from what is now Dillman's store on the north-west corner, as far as, and including, the Christian Church and cemetery.

Harrison Haight was married to Agnes Doan, the daughter of a respected Philadelphia family who had settled near Newmarket. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters—Silas, Mahlon, Samuel, Joseph, Betsy (married John Henry), Melissa (married Reuben Thomas), Sophronia (married William Yarnold), and Susan (married Lewis Van Camp). In 1842 the mother, "little Agnes Doan", passed away. It is not recalled where she was taken, but only that all went in canoes to the burying place.

Harrison felt the loss of his wife very keenly. It is understood he became restless at this time, which suggests a further reason for the sale

of the farm. Later he married again, and those relatives who remember the second grandmother, speak very lovingly of her.

In 1860 Harrison Haight left Little Britain and lived for a time near Newmarket. Later he settled in a little home in Borelia. In the summer of 1877 he died at the home of his youngest son in Harriston, Ontario. He was buried in Prince Albert cemetery near Port Perry, in the plot where also rest the bodies of his son-in-law, William Yarnold, his daughter, Sophronia Haight Yarnold, and their son, Frank.

Descendants of Harrison Haight have now come in some branches of the family to the sixth generation, but there are still five living grandchildren. They are—Silas Thomas of Toronto; Mrs. Edna (Henry) Bowman of California; Miss Ella Yarnold of Toronto; Mrs. Agnes (Haight) Jackson of Guelph; and Mrs. Florence (Van Camp) Lander of Toronto.

JOHN HAIGHT came to Canada from Vermont with his brother Harrison. Though he does not appear so prominently in the community history, it may be taken for granted that the brothers worked together and that their interests were mutual. John, too, was a local preacher, being remembered as "the noisy one", the other, Harrison, as "quieter". John Doan of Mount Forest states that his grandfather, John Haight, moved with his family from Little Britain to Queen's Bush in 1860, settling on a farm about a mile from what is now the village of Drayton. In 1842 John Haight sold to R. F. Whiteside the west hundred acres, on which was a sawmill and other buildings.

John Haight died in 1889, his wife having pre-deceased him in 1880.

The Hights still treasure a pair of tiny moccasins given to them by friendly Indians who had probably enjoyed the contents of a large, well-filled jar of doughnuts, always kept ready for them.

JAMES MARK, unmarried, came with his brother John. He evidently kept supplies for sale to settlers, according to an old account book in possession of the family. He it was who wrote the account of the ocean voyage, from Plymouth to Quebec, on page 51.

JAMES ROADHOUSE and his wife drove with oxen and followed surveyors' trails by way of Manilla to Mariposa. He owned the farm where the Canadian Bank of Commerce now stands, also a store near the same site, one of the first stores in the village. He is said to have harboured two rebels at the time of the Mackenzie rebellion. One of his many descendants living in or near by the village is Mrs. Mary (Mark) Heatlie.

JOHN MARK, with his wife and family of five children, settled on the farm on which the first church was built, then an unbroken forest. His chief interests were his family and his church, and he lived to see three churches erected on his farm before his death just previous to the Church Union of 1884.

JOHN McLEAN settled on a farm on Con. 5, later owned by William Cornish. He did not know that he had any neighbours until he saw Mr. DeLong passing. He lived where Richard Hall now lives. It was safer to travel by night, as a lighted torch would keep away wild animals. A grand-daughter, Mrs. Joseph Sparks, is a resident of the village.

JOSEPH ROGERS, who married Polly Brock, once lived on the farm where J. W. Henderson and son Norman now live. There was also an Isaac Rogers—no details available.

THOMAS MARK, brother of John and James, soon followed them to the new land. He married Harriet Yerex, and helped to build the mill-dam for John Haight. It is said he earned enough money to pay for his farm, next half lot north, Con. 6. A son, T. H. Mark, resides in Lindsay, and his son, Dr. C. E. Mark, is Principal of London Normal School. J. R. Mark, M.P.P. (Con.) North Victoria, and later Registrar at Lindsay was also Thomas Mark's sons, and two of his sons reside in Kinmount.

RICHARD NETHERTON, 1849, settled on S1½, Lot 17, Con. 3, where his grandson, C. H. Netherton, now lives. One son, Henry, is located in Illinois, U.S.A.; his other son, William, married Hannah Mark, and his daughter, Anne, married Robt. Henderson. They drove in a sleigh to Lindsay, where the double ceremony was performed. Mary married Geo. Sanderson, storekeeper in the village, and Philippa married Jos. Mark. William built a nice home across the road to the south where his second son, Frank, and his son, Verne, and family now reside.

RICHARD MARK, eldest son of John Mark, came from England with his parents in 1832. He farmed at Zion for several years, later moving to Valentia, where he died. He married Rachael Roadhouse. Their family, Nancy, James C., John, Philip and Morrison are dead; William and Mellisa (Brown), Saskatchewan; Wilfrid, Scugog Island; Alice Sheehy, Toronto, and Mary Heatlie survive.

WILLIAM MARK, son of John, came to Mariposa in 1835. He married Sarah A. Powell and settled on a farm near Valentia, where his son, Ammon, lived till his death, and where his grandson, Orr Mark and family now live. His youngest daughter, Estella Henderson, is deceased, and only the eldest daughter is left. William Mark and his wife spent their last days in Little Britain village.

PHILIP MARK, son of John, was born at Little Britain, married Sarah Hines and located north of Oakwood on the farm where his son, John, lived until his death, and his grandson, Russell Mark and his family now reside. Judson and Leslie, two sons, are deceased. One daughter, Florence McCorvil, and family live at Oakwood. His eldest son, George, well-known in municipal matters and once Warden of the county, with his wife and son, Everett and family live at Little

Britain. Philip was a member of the Township Council at the time of his death.

JOHN MARK, son of John, was born at Little Britain, and married Susan Broad. He farmed for several years near Zion but lived in Little Britain for a number of years before his death. His eldest daughter, Evalena Henderson, deceased, lived for many years in the village. Other children are Mabel Rodman, Imperial, Sask.; Edna Medland, Lindsay, and his only son, Herbert, and family reside at Bobcaygeon.

JOSEPH MARK, son of James, married Philippa Netherton and lived in the village for a time. He built and lived in the house where A. Prosser lives. After farming east of Valentia he retired to the village and spent the rest of his life. He had two sons, William, a farmer, with his family lives at Milton; Cephas, at Lindsay (mentioned elsewhere). Three daughters, deceased, are Ida Suggitt, Uxbridge, Elizabeth Corneil and Ella Mitchell. *Phillipia E. Mark 1864-1959?*

JAMES O. MARK, son of James, farmed the old homestead for a time. He married Jennie Hoover and finally located in Oregon, where they are buried. Their family consisted of three daughters.

JAMES MARK, son of Philip, Sr., came from England with his parents in 1842. Married Charlotte Jewell. His sons, Joseph, Luther and Fletcher, also one daughter, Harriet Rodd, are deceased. One daughter, Olivia, lives in Windsor. He was a member of the Township Council at the time of his death.

ANN MARK, daughter of Philip, Sr., was born in England. She married James Rodman. Their children were Joseph, Caleb, Elizabeth Parson, Drusilla Broad, Ind., all deceased. One daughter still living is Annie, formerly of the Civil Service, Ottawa, who makes her home in Toronto. Mrs. Rodman and her sister, Jane, unmarried, spent their last years together in Little Britain.

JOHN KELLY, who had a wagon and sleigh shop on King St., just north of the creek, was a sort of village lawyer. His father and mother, a most interesting couple, lived with him above the shop. He did much conveyancing, writing of wills and other legal documents. After the death of his mother he moved to Lindsay where he was employed in the Watchman Warder office for years. He married late in life a cousin from Rochester. Little information after that was obtained.

NEIL McCALDER came from Southern Colonsay, Outer Hebrides (Scotland) to Canada in 1835, at the age of 26. On the way his father died and was buried in Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal. Neil settled on Con. 5 where Mr. Palmer now lives. It was the crowing of a rooster that made him realize he had neighbours. He spoke the Gaelic tongue, and regularly walked six miles to Kirk at Sonya. Rev. John McNeil of Toronto (Baptist) was a relative. Mr. McCaLder helped to carry the body of Mr. McLean (Mary McLean's husband) through the woods

to Wick Cemetery. His only descendants were two grand-daughters, Mrs. Ella (McCalder) Perrin and the late Mrs. Vina (Wallis) St. John. Mrs. Perrin's mother, Mrs. McCalder Western, makes her home with her daughter.

ROBERT IRWIN, once Reeve of the Township of Mariposa, emigrated from Ireland in the 30's. While visiting his homeland his house was burned down, but on his return he found that kind-hearted friends had the material on the ground for rebuilding his home. His twin daughters, Aggie and Harriet, married Dillman brothers. Harriet's son Leo has charge of a garage and service station in the village. William Irwin, father of Rev. Mansell Irwin, was a brother of Robert.

ISAAC CULBERT, a native of Ireland, came to Canada and procured a farm about a mile south of Little Britain, the original deed of which is still retained in the family—four generations having lived on the farm since Isaac's time—John, who married Catherine Hoover, David, Mahlon and Ralph. Isaac's son, William, with his wife, Elizabeth Shell, and a family of three children, migrated to Iowa, U.S.A., travelling with horses and covered wagon. On account of ill-health he returned later in the same way. A daughter, Mrs. Mary Culbert Prosser, lives in a house built by Joseph Mark, once owned by John Adams.

GEORGE WALLIS, Sr., wife and family of four boys came from Yorkshire, England, in 1833 and settled first in Whitchurch. In 1835 they moved to Con. 6, Mariposa, and secured farms for himself and sons close by in the same locality. Russell Wallis and his son work the home-stand farm. Many descendants, all interested in the affairs of the village and especially of the church, still live in the district.

HEZEKIAH and DANIEL NOBLE were among the early settlers of the district. They had farms on Con. 7 where reside a son of Hezekiah, Abram, and two daughters, Mrs. Charles Dunn and Mrs. Thomas Reazin, loyal supporters of the Christian Church.

JAMES POGUE (Irish) removed from his farm on Con. 5 and came to the village to live, in a house just south of the creek, now owned by Laurie Kennedy. A private school for girls was conducted in their home. Of their large family one son and three daughters still survive, one, Mrs. Charlotte (Pogue) Thompson, in her 90th year.

ALEX. POGUE sold his farm south of the village to James Sloan, who cleared it, built a home, and lived there with his family till his death. The property was sold by his son, W. W. Sloan, some twenty-five years later to Rex. Brown. Alex. Pogue's farm, farther south, is now owned by his grandson, Joseph Pogue.

CURTIS HASKILL felled the first tree on his farm where William Stacey and his son Clair now live. A son, Ezra, has lived for many years in Treherne, Manitoba, but enjoys a visit to Little Britain Church where he and his wife, then Emily M. Yeo, were always among the clever waiters at the New Year's Teas. A daughter, Mrs. Ada (Haskill)

King, lives in the village and remembers when at one time the farm was rented that the family moved to what was originally a school-house on C. Westlake's farm. No trace of the school-house remains. It is said that Mrs. Harriet (Prior) Whiteside once taught there for a short time. A road once angled across the intervening farms to Fingerboard and Pleasant Point.

SAMUEL DAVIDSON, familiarly known as "Squire Davidson", was active in the business life of the settlement. The survey of the township was completed after his arrival and he acquired considerable property. Appointed magistrate, he settled many minor infractions of the law, enquired into land claims, provided title-deeds, legalized squatters' rights where settlement duties had been fulfilled. Parchment was used for these papers, in which all gold and silver was reserved for the Crown. Having had military experience with the Irish Home Guards, Squire Davidson was given the Commission of Colonel in the Volunteer Regiment during the Mackenzie rebellion, which lasted only a short time. Some time after the death of his wife, Ann Paton, he married Mrs. Parkin, and resided in Lindsay until his death. The family plot is in the Christian Cemetery, where many of his descendants of four sons and seven daughters lie buried. Some families of the seventh generation are living in the locality, and all are helpful and interested in the work of the church.

LYMAN MINTHORNE states that he and his brother Theodore carried anvils and iron from Whitby across Lake Scugog and by forest trail to set up the first blacksmith's shop in Little Britain settlement—date unknown. These men and Mrs. W. Rodd, a former resident of Little Britain, are cousins of ex-President Hoover, who always remembered Mrs. Rodd with a letter or card on her birthday. She lived to a great old age.

JAMES CHIDLEY, a former Bible Christian local preacher, came to Canada from England when a young man. He married Grace Maunder, and took up farming on Con. 7. Seven of the family of twelve children are still alive. Two sons became ministers, and both were well known in the Christian Church, especially William who was accidentally drowned. One son, Wesley, and his wife and family, are respected residents of the village.

PHILIP MARK, nephew of Thomas, married Sophia Roach. He bought S1½ Lot 17, Con. 4, from his uncle James. His only son Edwin was at one time Reeve of Mariposa. One daughter, Mrs. Harriet Mark Sloan, the only one left of the family, lives in the village. A grandson, Reginald, is on the homestead.

WILLIAM RICH, a native of England, made his home on Con. 5, just west of the Dix farm. His eldest daughter, now 86 years of age, Mrs. John Wickett, now resides at Eden. A. E. Rich on Con. 7 is a son, also John Rich, who was a tailor in Little Britain.

WILLIAM PROUSE came to Canada from England in 1842 and secured a farm near the old Providence church. He married Elizabeth Jewell, who, with her parents, came to Canada about the same time. He was a wagon-maker by trade, but many articles of furniture made by him are family heirlooms. Of a family of eight only Thomas and George of Lindsay survive. All were devoted church workers, and Ernest Honey, a grandson, is in the ministry of the United Church.

REUBEN THOMAS lived on N¹/₂ Lot 15, Con. 2. He was a relative of the Haight. About this time, 1840, the road angled across the farm to the south-west by William Culbert's house on Con. 2 and on over what is now Stokes' farm, up the hill and to Port Hoover. The farm was owned in turn by Isaiah Rodman, Charles Connor, and at the present time by his son, Wilmot Connor.

R. F. WHITESIDE, Sr., 1842, referred to elsewhere, was a member of the township council in 1850 with John Jacobs, Reeve, Samuel Davidson, Obadiah Rogers, William Ramsay, A. A. McLaughlin, Clerk, James Thorndyke, Sec.-Treasurer. A daughter who married Dr. Vrooman lived to be over 90. Miss Matilda, 96, is living with a niece, Canada Whiteside Rich, one son, R. F. Whiteside, Jr., 92, with his wife, Margaret Jordan, and their daughter Lida are esteemed residents of the village. A grandchild, Margot, is the daughter of their son Jacob, deceased. Two sons, Dr. W. N. and J. L., a lawyer, died before 50. Mrs. Albert Matthews, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, is a daughter of J. L. Whiteside. Mr. Garrison Whiteside and Miss Ernestine, well-known writer of Baptist Church periodicals, are children of Dr. W. N. Whiteside.

JOHN SPARKS, Sr., English, located on a farm west of Neil McCalder's, where R. Rodman now lives. His two sons, Levi and John, lived and died there. John, Sr., was an amateur veterinary, also an expert clock repairer, and on that account his services were in great demand among his neighbours. His grandsons, Levi, Russell, and Joseph, have remained near the old home.

WILLIAM PARKINSON came from Yorkshire, England, to a farm on Con. 7. He had one daughter, Mrs. S. Casey Wood, and five sons. One, John, died young from a scalding accident. Three other fine young men, Thomas, Wilson, and Dr. George, died in early manhood. William, who married Miss Webster, lived to a great old age. He was prominent in the municipal life of the township and was Warden of Victoria County in 1851. One daughter, Mrs. Minnie (Parkinson) Jenkins, and most of her family reside in this district.

THOMAS THOMAS was a local preacher who had settled near Little Britain. Two of his daughters and two of his sons married two of the sons and two of the daughters of Isaac Rodman.

ARCHIBALD GLENNEY. Disappointed in love in Ireland, Archibald Glenney (1774-1852) emigrated to Canada in 1836 and

bought from the Government Agent at Newcastle, a farm in the vicinity of Little Britain. The Crown Deed of this farm is a treasured family possession.

MOSES GLENNEY. In 1840 Moses, a brother, with his wife, Elizabeth Brown Glenney, and a family of eight children—the youngest, James Andrew, only three years old—arrived from Ireland to live with Archibald on the homestead. Three months later Moses died of fever and ague, leaving to his wife the task of raising the family.

As a courageous woman and a devoted mother her name has been honoured through the years by her descendants and also by those of the neighbours who enjoyed her hospitality and who were deeply indebted to her for freely-given aid in illness or trouble. Like many of the pioneers, Mrs. Glenney lived to be over 90 years of age.

Descendants of the daughters of Moses Glenney—Mrs. Jonathan Hodgins, Mrs. Charles Hodgins and Mrs. William Wiggings, all of whom went to the United States to live, are to be found to-day in Kansas, Oregon, Michigan and other places. Some are able to trace their family line to the sixth generation.

A great-grandson, Mr. Wiggings, with his wife and daughter, visited Little Britain recently (1937), and was apparently much interested in information obtained from various sources, notably cemetery records.

William Glenney was for many years an esteemed citizen of Oshawa. Andrew, the baby aforementioned, lived to a great age and died in Toronto a short time ago at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Bannerman. Other members of Andrew's family are successful farmers living near Newcastle and Orono, Ontario. John married Mary Ann Henderson, remained on the original farm and cared for his mother. Of his family of three sons and two daughters, Margaret died young; Elizabeth Glenney Pilkey and her family have lived in Toronto for many years; William and Moses made their homes on farms almost adjoining the homestead, and in later years their families married and some left Little Britain, while others remain on the farms. His youngest son, John Robert, succeeded his father on the homestead, where he and his wife still reside; the farm is now cultivated by his son, Cecil, whose young son, Lawrence, represents the fifth generation bearing the name of Glenney on this land, since Moses came from Ireland to assist Archibald.

PHILIP MARK and **NICHOLAS**, his brother, were cousins of John, James and Thomas Mark. Philip settled on Con. 6, marrying Achsah Gager, a splendid neighbour, as were so many pioneer women—always ready to respond to the many demands for assistance from those living round about them. Philip was a cabinet-maker but acquired considerable land and took up farming. The two youngest daughters, Kate and Esther (Mrs. Wilson Johnston) were well-known as expert horseback riders, either with saddle or bareback. Arthur Mark of Woodville is

a grandson. Nicholas Mark settled south of the Nonquon, now Sea-grave.

PHILIP MARK, Sr., the seventh of this name, with his wife and seven children, came to Mariposa in 1842. He settled on S $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 17, Con. 4, where Stuart Metherell, a great-great-grandson, now lives. His wife always became ill when Philip planned to sail and join his brothers, and only after their eldest son, Philip, Jr., had crossed the seas, did she consent to make the voyage. Their daughter, Hannah, was only 5 years old at the time. Not a tree was cut on the farm, but soon a log house 18 feet by 28 feet was built. A tree nearby falling on the roof shortly afterwards caused some alarm, but the damage was slight. At night torches of cedar bark were carried when neighbours visited, to keep away wild animals. A crop of oats, taken to market at Oshawa by his brother, brought him 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per bushel. Fish and game were plentiful.

MR. YEREX, Sr., apparently of Pennsylvania Dutch extraction, came with his family to Canada from U.S.A. He lived for many years at Lorne Park, and for 20 years sailed on Lake Ontario. A son, Isaac, was born at Lorne Park and he too became a sailor and served for four years. In 1838 he moved to Little Britain, exchanging 50 acres at Lorne Park for 200 acres in Mariposa, because as he said, he must have more room to raise his family of nine children. His numerous descendants are now scattered over Canada and the United States. Many members of the Yerex families are inseparably connected with the business, social and church life of Little Britain. E. Z. Yerex and family will be long remembered for the part they took in all activities, always ready and willing to render practical assistance whenever possible. The summer home at Port Hoover has been retained, and some church societies will recall delightful picnics spent there.

MR. HILLBORN at one time owned the George Avery, Jr., farm, north of the village. A few years ago a man of that name attending a Christian Conference here, said he was the first white child born on that farm.

BONNELLS were pioneer Quaker settlers who once owned Percy Prouse's farm on Con. 7. There were two sons, Henry and Charles. Henry married Honor Mark (no further information), and Charles became a doctor, practising for years in Bobcaygeon.

SERGEANT JOHN HALL was born in County of Monaghan, Ireland, in 1790; enlisted in 11th Infantry in 1809; married Ann Pollock in 1826; came to Canada in 1844, settling on Con. 4, Mariposa. He was a weaver by trade. Two sons, William and John, settled on farms on Con. 4. Dr. G. W. Hall—who with his son, Dr. G. C. R. Hall, is practising in Little Britain—is a son. Descendants can be traced to the sixth generation.

JOHN DIX, with his parents, settled first in the Bay of Quinte district, but in 1844 he found his way to Mariposa and secured 300 acres

west of Little Britain village, where his son, J. Fletcher Dix, his wife, Julia Broad, and their son, J. Stanley Dix with his family now reside. At various times John Dix was local preacher, Class Leader, Sunday School Superintendent and public school trustee. During the latter years of his life he spent much time in pastoral visiting. A daughter, Mary, was for many years a settlement worker in Chicago. It is said that Mr. Dix's mother, who died at Oakwood in 1841, was carried by friends—singing on their way, as was their custom—to the Bible Christian Cemetery at Little Britain. The impulse for Christian activity seems to have been born in the family. Helen and Marshall Dix, well-known in Little Britain in their younger days, were cousins of Fletcher Dix.

JAMES SMITH came to Canada in 1845 and took over the Proctor farm, S1½, lot 16, Con. 6, which earlier had been purchased by a previous owner for a barrel of salt. A few years ago relatives of the Proctor's called to see the farm of their forefathers. Unfortunately the one to whom they applied for information did not make any enquiries into the family origin. Their address was mislaid, so that a splendid picture of their old log-house, probably over 100 years old, could not be forwarded to them by one who has the negative. The farm is now owned by Mrs. Mary (Smith) Williams, a daughter. It has been worked for years by the Mark Wickett family, and now by Gordon Avery. Mrs. Ila Deshane is another daughter of James Smith.

JOHN HICKS, his wife and a six-weeks old baby drove from Cobourg to Little Britain in a lumber wagon. This baby was later Mrs. Silas H. Jacobs. To carry on his shoemaking business Mr. Hicks walked to Bowmanville for supplies, taking one day to walk there and two days to walk back, carrying a hundred-weight of leather on his back.

HENRY SNELGROVE came to Canada from Wiltshire, England, in 1833, but did not reach Mariposa until 1847. His grandchildren, Fred and Matilda Snelgrove, occupy the old home on Con. 4. Fred Snelgrove has a large collection of relics of early days, including a "spike machine" used for threshing grain. A trail through the forest over the Snelgrove and Western property was later used as a road. Over this trail Mrs. H. Snelgrove was carried, along a cow-path, to the Bible Christian Cemetery at Little Britain.

JOHN MARTIN, who came from England, has lived in the village longer than any other man here at the present time. He married Emma Wooldridge, and their children—long time residents of Little Britain—were Albert (deceased) and Lillie (Mrs. Edgar Jones). Garnet Jones, a grandson, is proprietor of a garage and service station in the village.

MARK WICKETT enjoyed recalling the voyage across the ocean on his way to Canada from England, when he was 14 years of age. Seven weeks in a sailing vessel over exceedingly rough seas had made him so sea-sick that he begged the captain to toss him overboard. (Mark Wickett's family of three girls and five boys should feel a debt of gratitude to that captain.) Mark's brother William, who had pre-

ceded him, was delayed in meeting him at Whitby, and found him asleep on a bench. William admonished him by saying "Why, boy, you might have been robbed." Mark replied "Well, they wouldn't have got much. I have only tuppence in my pocket and half a loaf of bread." His family of eight grew up around Little Britain and all are interested in the welfare of the community, although some have travelled and settled at considerable distances from it. Mr. Ed. Wickett of Little Britain is a son.

WILLIAM WICKETT, as well as Mark, lived at Columbus, Ontario, and some of the family were quite grown-up when they came to Little Britain. His son, Rev. W. T. Wickett (deceased) was born at Columbus, and although never stationed at Little Britain, frequently visited the congregation and was much beloved by all for his sincere and unselfish Christianity. "Though not one of our own boys," said a disinterested member of the church, "we always felt that he belonged to us." Two sons of William Wickett live in Oshawa and Whitby, a daughter, Mrs. Lobb, in Oakwood, and a daughter, Mrs. Slemmon (deceased). Another son, Fred, with his wife and son, Grant, have remained citizens of our village.

JOHN BUTLER and his wife were eleven weeks crossing the ocean from England in a sailing vessel. When about half way across they were driven by contrary winds back to the starting point, where many of the first crew left the ship. Finally they reached Bowmanville and from there travelled to a farm just west of Little Britain. Their home was a most attractive white, frame cottage, surrounded by well-cared for grounds and a beautiful orchard adjoining it, situated at the top of a hill. The ruins of the cottage remain, bearing little resemblance to the home-like original. The names of Mr. and Mrs. Butler have been mentioned already in connection with church and Sunday School work, which seemed to be their chosen interest. Three grandchildren live in the district—W. E. Wickett, Con. 6; Mrs. Alma (Wickett) Rich, and Mrs. Lily (Wickett) Rich.

WILLIAM WEBSTER, born in Wexford County, Ireland, set sail with his parents and family across the ocean for Canada in May, 1817, on a voyage that lasted sixteen weeks and four days. Part of their effects were stolen on the way to their new home. In 1833 he married Mary, the daughter of Samuel Davidson, from County Down, Ireland. Not until 1845 did they find their way to Mariposa, where Davidsons also were living. At that time Mariposa was largely made up of areas of unbroken forest. William Webster secured and cleared the east half of Lot 23, Con. 6, bought from Joseph Abraham of Markham for 100 Pounds. For fifty years William Webster and Mary, his wife, were faithful members and liberal supporters of the Methodist Church. Their home was for many years the place of regular meeting for preaching, prayer and class gatherings. Thirteen children were born of this union, three dying in infancy. There were Ann (Mrs. George Henderson), Thomas, Mary (Mrs. John Hall), William, Samuel, Selina (Mrs. Richard

Richardson), John, Abram, Moses, and Robert. John and Abram became ministers. William, Abram, Leslie and Ray represent four generations that have lived on the homestead. Many descendants of these have in different ways been connected with the history of Little Britain church and village.

JOHN and JAMES CAMPBELL, brothers, came to Canada from Ireland in 1850. James was a weaver of woollen goods, flannel, blankets, cloth, and carpet. All fulling of cloth was done at Whiteside Mills. James remained unmarried. John became a farmer, south of Little Britain, and his descendants claim Little Britain as their home town.

JOHN WICKETT with his wife, Mary Balsom, of English nationality, came to Canada about 1840. The census returns in the archives of Ottawa, 1861, contain his name. He is described as a man 43 years of age, and the oldest child, born in Canada, as 17 years of age. The family of four daughters and two sons, John and William, grew up on the farm and were trained early to have an interest in all activities of church and village, an interest that has been handed down to children and grandchildren to the present time. The log school-house built just opposite was most convenient for the younger members of the family, but in order to get their education some of the daughters attended school week about. Eva (Wickett) Faithful and William E. Wickett respectively, live on their fathers' farms, once the old homestead.

ROBERT HENDERSON was born in Emily Township, Victoria County, in 1836, of Irish descent, the son of James Henderson and Mary Mitchell, his wife. In 1856, at the age of twenty, he came to Mariposa and settled two concessions south of Little Britain on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Stuart Henderson. Here he made a clearing in the forest and established a home. It is said that he walked to the home of his sister, Mrs. Webster, on Con. 8, for his weekly supply of bread. He helped to clear and build the corduroy road into the Netherton farm. His wife, Ann Netherton, died in 1876, leaving five sons, Albert and Howard, since deceased, and Wesley in the village were farmers; John, M.D., in Lindsay, and George, a druggist in Cannington. His second wife was Mrs. William Davidson (Mary Ann Greenway). His sister, Elizabeth, resided with her brother for many years.

WILLIAM YEO, Jr. Yeo is a well-known Devonshire name. From knowledge obtained of groups in Western Ontario, Toronto, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, all have originally come from Devonshire, England, and are probably distantly related, although no near relatives of the above family name have been located. William Yeo, Jr., and Charlotte Bailey were married in Moorwenstow Church, Cornwall, England, on April 3rd, 1857, and at once set sail for Canada, which they reached after a long and stormy voyage, with much sickness on board and detention by quarantine at Quebec. They landed at Bowmanville, where friends from Mariposa met them. For many years William Yeo, Jr., worked on the farm of James Smith, a relative, and in the course of time had a family of nine children (one dying in

infancy) and faced the problem of their future. In the meantime the home was always as near as possible to a school and attendance regular. As the boys in turn grew up, they strangely enough all favoured black-smithing. William T., the eldest, served an apprenticeship of nearly three years with James Blewett, when a severe illness prevented his finishing. Later he graduated as a public school teacher and physician. John A. followed, finishing his time with Joseph Maunder, and continuing it in his own shops for many years, later going into the hardware business. Charles T. spent all his spare time in John A.'s shop, and from that experience added a Specialist's Degree to his Manual Training Certificate which he received at Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario, being a member of the first class Canadian Trained Manual Training Directors in Canada. There were five daughters, Elizabeth (Mrs. William Wickett), deceased; Mary (Mrs. William Newton) of Oshawa; Miss N. J. Yeo of Toronto, teacher; Lottie (Mrs. Thos. Wooldridge) of Oakwood, and Mrs. (Rev.) W. T. Wickett, who since the death of her husband has made her home at Yeo's cottage, north of Little Britain. The next generation, a small group with only two boys to carry on the Yeo name, are—Maud, teacher of Auxiliary Classes, Toronto; and Charles A., teacher of electrical construction in Ottawa Technical-High School, children of John A. and Meta Metherell; Isabelle, private secretary, Toronto; and William J., wireless operator and radio instructor, Royal Canadian Air Force, Montreal, children of Charles T. and Janet Paterson; and two sons of Mrs. Thos. Wooldridge, Maurice, B.A., B.Paed., a teacher at Humberside Collegiate, Toronto; and Charles L., an experienced farmer at Oakwood, Ontario. The latter's small daughter, Audrey, is the only great-grand-child of William Yeo, Jr.

HON. SAMUEL CASEY WOOD, 1854. Perhaps no one who lived in Little Britain attained greater prominence than did Samuel Casey Wood, who was born at Bath, Ontario, in 1830. He married Miss Parkinson, Con. 7. To partly trace his active career—school teacher; merchant at Taylor's Corners (East Oakwood); partnership with George Sanderson at Little Britain where Dillmans now live; kept first post office in Little Britain, 1855, under Obadiah Rogers, first post master appointed (Ottawa Archives); built a store and carried on business at Port Hoover; Township clerk of Mariposa; County clerk and Treasurer of Victoria County; entered Provincial Legislature in 1871, as member for South Victoria; retained his seat for 12 years during the Mowat Administration; moved to Toronto. At the end of his political career he returned to commercial life and was connected with many financial and industrial concerns, among others being on the directorate of the Sterling Bank of Canada. Of his family of ten children, three still survive, S. Casey Wood, lawyer, Lewis T., and Mrs. Ada (Wood) Beatty, all of Toronto. He was buried at Lindsay in his 83rd year. His public life reflected the integrity and sterling qualities which as a young man gained for him the confidence and regard of his numerous Little Britain friends.

JOHN YEO with his wife arrived in Canada about 1863. In the party were also William Yeo, Sr., and his wife, his father and mother, and two sisters, Elizabeth Snow, a widow with one son, and Richard and Charlotte Yeo Bonnetta. William Yeo, Sr., became blind soon after his arrival and until his death at the age of 87 had a lonely life. He made his home for a few years with his son, until he bought the school house in 1869, and with his wife made his home near to the village.

John Yeo for some years farmed in northern Mariposa, in the Quaker settlement, but afterwards came to the Butler farm, west of Britain, later moving into the village. From that time the whole family were intimately associated with all church work, Mrs. Yeo especially being a very devoted worker in the Missionary Society. Of their three children, whose earlier years were spent in Little Britain, Emily (Mrs. Ezra Haskill) lives at Treherne, Manitoba, Ada (Mrs. George Wickett) lives at Whitby, Ontario, and William J., well-known blacksmith, who bought out James Blewett, house and shop, has always made his home in the village. He married Evelyn Culbert, and for years both have been very active in the Christian Church, particularly in the choir and other entertainment. He is secretary-treasurer of the Cemetery Committee of that church.

JOHN and ELIZABETH GREENWAY, JOHN and CHARLOTTE ADAMS may be associated in this little article as they were brothers-in-law; also they lived on adjoining farms on Con. 6, west of what was often called the mill turn (leading to Davidson's Mill) west to John Glass's farm on the main road.

Reliable information could not be obtained as to the date of their coming to Canada, nor who comprised the group. It is known, however, that they came from Devonshire, in the early 50's, as they were already established on farms when, with others, they met relatives from England in 1857. Both couples were very strict disciplinarians and had very decided opinions regarding certain lines of conduct, and those opinions had to be respected by those with whom they came in contact. John Greenway was a carpenter by trade, John Adams was a mason. He is known to have plastered several buildings in Little Britain. The Greenway family comprised one son, Richard, who married Grace Trewin, who, being now in her 99th year, survived him. Elizabeth, wife of James Smith, Mary Ann, wife of William Davidson, Norah Jane, Mrs. Tiffin, all deceased.

Three members of R. Greenway's family are William on the home farm, Edna, Mrs. Thompson of Mitchell, and Ethelbert, a well-known physician of Hamilton, Ontario. John Greenway did not leave the farm. John Adams, who had no family, after the decease of his wife removed to Little Britain.

JAMES WOOLDRIDGE with his parents and numerous brothers and sisters came from near Tavistock, Devonshire, in the 50's. The

parents and one sister, Mrs. John Martin, lived in or near the village for many years. The brothers, James, William, Sidney, Fred (perhaps others) were well-known farmers. At one time five farms within a radius of less than two miles from Little Britain were cultivated by a Wooldridge. James Wooldridge, now over 90, with two of his seven sons, Sid and Joe, live on their farm near Glandine. Thomas is a farmer near Oakwood. Samuel, war veteran, and William deceased, others moved farther away. Mrs. Laurie Kennedy, wife of the genial village postmaster, is a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Wooldridge, Sr., have their home in the village. It is recalled that Mrs. James Wooldridge with a basket of butter and eggs on her arm walked through the woods to Lindsay where she paid \$1.00 per lb. for tea, and received 10c. per lb. for butter and 8c. per doz. for eggs.

SAMUEL METHERELL, commonly called Uncle Samuel, owned the farm on which W. Henderson now lives, and it was worked for many years by Seth Metherell, his nephew. Victoria County records give the date as 1847. It had passed through other owners before that.

He married Mary Retallack and had two children, Mrs. (Dr.) Andrews, and Dr. Albert Metherell.

S. Metherell seems to have been a very enterprising man, making several voyages to the Old Country, and bringing back with him each time a relative, usually a nephew or a young friend. His nephews were, Samuel H. Metherell, Moses, Seth and Elias. After coming here they were usually under his care until they secured positions. Mrs. Brimmell was a niece. Mr. Metherell made and sold coffins at \$4.00 each.

All these families have been intimately connected with the business and church work of Little Britain. Mrs. Seth Metherell, aged 92, and two daughters, Mrs. Howard Henderson and Mrs. William Glenney, are willing and helpful members of the church. Enos Metherell, Mrs. F. Maunder, Mrs. John Yeo, Mrs. A. Fearn are frequent visitors.

RICHARD RICH came from England when a young man, probably about 1865, with his wife and family. He lived in the vicinity of Little Britain for a time then bought a farm at Mariposa Station. One son, Harry, died young. His only daughter, Mrs. Hannah Coad, lives in Lindsay, also his son, W. J. Rich, physician. William, James, John, Edward and Alfred, after farming for a number of years, have retired and are living in Oakwood. (William died Aug. 29, 1939.)

R. ARCHER from England, 1856, settled on Lot 13, Con. 5. Rev. Joseph Archer married Martha Hardy. Their family numbered two daughters, May (mentioned in Church Notes), and Nellie, wife of Rev. Robins; also two sons, Rev. William Archer and Dr. A. E. Archer of Alberta, of whom J. L. McKay, B.A., B.D., author of the "World in Canada," says no name in Alberta is better known or more highly honoured than Dr. Archer, Superintendent of Lamont Hospital.

WILLIAM HARDY, 1850, lived on Con. 6, then on Con. 8, where Howard Hardy now lives. Isaac Hardy was a mason and helped in the construction of many of the home and farm buildings in the district, one being the house where W. Deshane lives. George Hardy, also a mason, plastered the U. Church in 1870. He built and owned the "Hicks" cottage, purchased and remodelled by Wm. Mark.

WILLIAM DAVIDSON, son of Samuel Davidson, married Mary Ann Greenway. Many industries of the times were being carried on at Davidson's Mill (The Old Mill). Water-power was extensively used and a dam was built across the stream at that point. In 1873 while attending to his duties it is supposed that he became overwhelmed by the flood from an ice-jam and was carried away by the current. A frantic search was made for ten days when his body was recovered and now lies in the Christian Cemetery.

He left three daughters, Adelia, wife of the late Joseph Gregg, V.S., Lottie, wife of J. W. Henderson, physician, Lindsay, and Minnie, wife of G. W. Hall, physician of Little Britain.

Details could not be obtained in many cases but these names must be added to the list of names that appear in our group: Wilcox, Pedlar, Dunn, Roach, Elliott, Cory, Western, Johnston, Bell, Wright, Graham, Foster, Lloyd, Gallagher, Lowes, Oliver, Broad, Slemmon, Playter, Frise, Walton, Parson, Spear, Avery, and all others who should be recalled in this list.



Diary

Diary of James Mark, a young unmarried man, who sailed with his brother John, his brother's wife and their five children from Plymouth, England, to Quebec in a sail-boat.

April 5, 1832, 5 p.m. Sailed from Plymouth. Fair wind.

April 6. Friday, 10 a.m. Sighted Scilly Islands.

April 7, 8 and 9. Continued fair.

April 10. Calm—2 knots an hour.

April 11. Increased speed 8 knots.

April 12. Strong fair breeze.

April 13. Friday. Same; $9\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 knots.

April 15. Gales.

April 17. A shark approached within 15 yards of the ship. A hook and line was cast to attempt to catch the monster, but he turned away and was seen no more. To us he looked to be as large as the ship on which we are sailing.

- April 20. Friday (2 weeks). Good Friday. Fair.
- April 21. Reached banks of Newfoundland. Saw immense icebergs which seemed as high as the masts of the vessel, yet two-thirds of their bulk is below the surface of the water. Fair.
- April 22. Easter Sunday. Vast quantities of floating ice around us.
- April 23. Easter Monday. Very fine. We lay to for a time and the passengers caught several cod on the banks, which are here about forty fathoms of water.
- April 24. Fishing again.
- April 25. Saw snow on the banks.
- April 26. Made little progress.
- April 27. Friday (3 weeks). Fine winds.
- April 28. Not quite so fine but went on.
- April 29. Sunday. Sighted land at a distance—Island of St. Pierre, belonging to France, appears to be a very cold island, white with snow.
- April 30. Monday. Cross winds. Met with plenty of ice coming from the River St. Lawrence. It came down against us just like a wide river which we must cross, in some places very wide, the ice in pieces, some large and some small. Sailed along side of it for a little space, and then, coming to a narrow space, we attempted to cross, as it happened, successfully. By this time we were in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In the evening sighted Cape Breton.
- May 1. Among ice fields.
- May 2. Same. We beat on until night when we were brought up in the ice and lay to all night.
- May 3. Returned and sailed up the Gut between Cape Breton and Nova Scotia. Some of the passengers went along side and walked upon the ice.
- May 4. Friday (4 weeks). We had the winds against us, and are going backward.
- May 5. In the Bay at the mouth of the Gut. Still going backward. It was a lash of rain all day, and so full of mist we could not see to enter the Gut, as it is but a narrow place. Cast out anchor and lay to all night.
- May 6. Partly hauled up the anchor, but the wind rose and blew so smart against us that they cast out anchor again and lay to all day. Nigh land, and we could see houses and habitations among the trees. The Master, Doctor and four sailors and passengers went ashore in the afternoon. The inhabitants where they landed were coloured people, who had lived there upwards of thirty years, on their own land. They say that one could buy 150 acres of land for fifteen pounds, and four years to pay the money. They brought a calf and some fowls

on board. They said they had never known such a hard winter there before.

- May 7. Monday. Same conditions. Tide against us. We got out between four and five in the morning to weigh the anchor. The wind was fair, but before we had the anchor up the wind shifted around against us again. We tack to and find lost ground for five or six hours, the tide was running so fast against us, but when the tide turned we gained up a few miles and then cast anchor again. The captain and several passengers went ashore again, bought, and brought on board milk, butter, potatoes.
- May 8. Weighed anchor again and had a small breeze coming up the Gut. This Gut was about a mile or a mile and a half wide. Had a fine view of the land as we passed on, Cape Breton on one side and New Brunswick on the other. The Island of Cape Breton is one hundred miles long and fifty miles wide. They plough . . . raise bullocks and sheep, till a few potatoes, send fish in exchange for flour.
- May 9. A beautiful breeze sprang up, and we continue on our way, entering the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- May 10. Passed Magdalen Islands, one by the name of Deadman's Island. Wind against us.
- May 11. Fine breeze. Calm near river entrance (5 weeks).
- May 12. Saturday. In river, with wind against us. At 12 o'clock the pilot came on board, and by lying close to the wind we could nearly steer our course.
- May 13. Sunday. Beautiful and delightful breeze astern us.
- May 14. Monday. Same, and we were sent up the river at a fine rate. When within 24 miles of Quebec, land by the name of Grouse Island, we were obliged to lay anchor over night. Above twenty ships were laying to anchor there, some under quarantine, and some waiting for quarantine officers to come and examine them. We lay from seven o'clock in the morning to nine or ten in the evening, when we had our liberty to start for Quebec.
- May 15. Tuesday. Arrived at Quebec at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon.

NOTE. Several vessels apparently had sailed from Plymouth about the same time for Quebec, and all were more or less delayed by the ice. This one seemed to have spent less time than the others in getting through.

We have no account of their further journey up the river, and on probably through Little York on their way to Newmarket, Ontario.

Some Pioneer Conditions in Mariposa as known in the Whiteside Family

Robert Ferguson Whiteside, Sr., born at Little Britain, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1805, came to Newmarket as a young millwright in 1831. He entered into partnership in the mill business and remained there ten years. In 1834 he married Margaret Lemon. She also had been born in Pennsylvania and was brought to Canada in 1809, a child of one year carried in the arms of her mother, who made the journey on horseback. Margaret Lemon often told of the forty-mile rides or drives to Toronto to make purchases when she was a girl, and of the three log stores and some hundred houses that made up the little centre which was still without sidewalks.

In 1842 Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside, with their four small children, moved to Mariposa township in Victoria County to have an independent business. The farm—still owned by the Whiteside family—was purchased, and on the creek running through it a sawmill and a woollen mill were operated. They named the place Elm Grove. The nearest post office at that time was seventeen miles away at Prince Albert. Postage was high and varied according to distance. The letters were usually written on a single sheet, folded to form the envelope as well, and instead of being stamped would be marked 3d., 6d., 1s., as the cost might be. Many a man had to borrow the money with which to obtain his letter.

When the family came to build their home, it was natural they should use lumber cut in their own woods and sawn in their own mill. The original plan was for a roomy one-storey building. Somehow in the process of erection, a full second storey with a generous attic developed, which was fortunate, as a large, hospitable family came to fill it to overflowing. One old lady, looking back across the years, used to say with a smile, "We always knew we would have a happy time when we went there."

Of equal importance with the housing of the family was provision for the services of the Christian Church, of which both Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside were devoted members. Mr. Whiteside gave land at the entrance to the village from the north on the north-east corner of his farm for a church site and burying ground, and shared very actively in the erection of the building which is still there, though greatly changed from the original white frame New England type with its pillared portico. Another essential building was a trading centre. On the south-east corner of his farm, which was the centre of the village, Mr. Whiteside built one of the first stores. The putting up of the Christian parsonage was another case of pioneer necessity. A Dr. and Mrs. Kellogg, very fine people who came to the settlement, had stayed at the Whiteside home some months before going to a house of their own near Davidson's mill. Returning home one winter evening after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside, they found only a heap of

smouldering ashes. Hastily driving back, they announced to the roused and astonished household—"and now we will just stay here until you build us a house." Evidently Dr. Kellogg was a forceful character, for a site was promptly chosen on rising ground by the creek in the village and the building followed with dispatch.

As all pioneers, they were almost self-sustaining. Their own grain went to the mill to provide flour and meal. Their own stock furnished meat, and what was not used fresh was frozen, salted, smoked, pickled or dried, as would best preserve it. Butter and cheese were made at home and put in reserve. Poultry and eggs were at hand. Fuel was to be had without stint for the cutting. The making of candles, the only light, and of hard and soft soap, constituted regular household tasks. All sugar came from the maple woods, the big, highly-refined cones being stored in a special sugar closet. The eldest daughter of the family first saw white granulated cane sugar when she was sixteen. In special root houses people learned to keep the year's supply of vegetables remarkably well. At first wild fruit had to be depended on, raspberries, plums, cherries, grapes, gooseberries and strawberries. These were preserved with quantities of maple sugar, often in open crocks, and were not always appetizing to the newcomer. Orchards were planted as soon as possible, and apples, fresh and dried, became a dietary staple.

Clothing and household linen were also provided at home. Flax was grown, spun and woven for linen. Wool from the sheep on the farm furnished blankets, coverings, cloth and carpets. The erect carriage of pioneer women was attributed greatly to the motions necessary to spinning with a large wheel. Of this, Mrs. Whiteside was an admirable example. Like many of her friends, she was an expert spinner, weaver and knitter, and skilled in the use of natural dyes. Some of her weaving and spinning is still in use. The carding of the wool for spinning, and the weaving of the spun yarn and pressing the cloth were processes usually left to the mill, and the finished product was almost wear-resisting.

The tailor would come to the house a month at a time to make the men's clothing from this stout homespun. Of such a suit, a sister—looking at the daguerrotype of a tall, fair boy—said, "How proud I was of him, as he set out for college in a green suit and a felt hat with a plume to match!" Doubtless his outfit was completed by a carpet bag of exotic colour and design, and a very small, round-topped trunk, covered with horsehide, the hair still on, and the narrow iron bands closely studded with brass-headed nails. Samples of both pieces of luggage are still in attics in possession of the family.

Roads were perforce poor in a new, sparsely-settled community. The custom was to plough the roadway each year, the soft earth filling the old ruts and holes. When Mr. William Prior came from England in 1855 he promoted gravel roads with great profit. The long swamps presented formidable difficulties in road-making, and doubtless contributed much to the fever and ague from which the early settlers universally suffered. Many women not native to the country could never

entirely overcome the fear these swamps held for them; the misery of jolting over the logs of new corduroy roads; the dread of meeting another conveyance on the single track with water stretching out on either side; the fear of highwaymen who had their hide-outs in such inaccessible spots, or if not of bandits, at least of wild cats that might leap from overhanging branches. Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside brought back with them, after a trip to Pennsylvania, the first covered conveyance in the district. It was unusually well built and comfortable, and might have furnished an excellent museum piece had it been preserved. Transportation being difficult and often impossible, markets were hard to come at, and ready money extremely scarce. Butter sold at 10c. a pound in the fifties, eggs at 8c. a dozen, and chickens at 25c. a pair, payment usually being made in trade, not cash.

Only by unremitting labour, combined with intelligence and initiative, could the new settler make headway. Hardships and privations were very real. Women especially needed to be born in the environment to be entirely adjusted. Mature women from older countries secretly pined in conditions that seemed so lonely and rough. English women, like Susanna Moodie and Mrs. Jamieson, have recorded their feelings. Only their children became a part of the country and really called it home. But women pioneer-born were neither lonely nor discouraged. With amazing energy and resource they met every situation. Doors were never locked at night, for some stranger might come who needed shelter. When Mrs. Whiteside was an old lady, a small granddaughter found her alone in the house as it was growing dark. Anxiously inquiring if she had not been afraid, she received the stern rebuke "Does any child of mine use the word 'fear'?" Hospitality was extended with utmost cordiality, because travel was arduous and stopping places few. No proper housewife was ever found without ample provision for unexpected guests. In childbirth and death, sickness and accident, neighbours learned to support one another without doctors or nurses.

Our present day comforts and conveniences, labour-saving devices, mass production, remarkable systems of education, communication and transportation that would have seemed incredible to our grandparents and great-grandparents, seem to, and do, represent tremendous strides in progress. Yet as we look back we feel a little wistful for some things they seem to have had in fuller measure: a more closely united family life; simpler and more wholesome social pleasures; and a more general and vital religious life, centered in the local church and reflected in the conduct of the community.



Anecdotes

About the time Mr. R. F. Whiteside, Sr., settled in Mariposa township there was a widespread belief that the end of the world was at hand.

Some people abandoned or sacrificed their property, prepared white robes, and even assembled on a hill-top in immediate expectancy. A neighbour, finding Mr. Whiteside going about his work as usual, took him severely to task for his indifference, and received this reply—"Well, I believe the Lord called me to be a millwright, and when He comes, He will expect to find me about my business."

Open elections used to be held in the early days, and in this connection an amusing story is related by one of Mr. Whiteside's sons-in-law many years later. Dr. A. E. Vrooman, a fervent Conservative by inheritance and conviction and a Conservative member of Parliament, was asked before the company on his golden wedding anniversary if the story could be credited that he had once voted Liberal. Highly amused, and yet not without embarrassment, he confessed it was true. "You know," he said, "it was in the old days of open voting. I was a young doctor just starting to practice, and I was making visits at the house on the hill that were not being too well received. When elections came and it was announced 'All those for Squire Davidson stand!' and then 'All those for Squire Whiteside stand!' why the only thing I could do was to vote Liberal." "But," he added, with a glint in his eye and a line about his mouth, "it was the only time."



The Village

A vivid imagination and keen appreciation of beauty and an ardent love of the out-of-doors are needed for the first view of the site of the village of Little Britain. The deep, rich soil supported a vast forest of giant elm, oak, and maple and profuse growth of smaller hard-woods on the higher grounds, while, on lower levels and river banks, were vast quantities of soft wood—cedar, balsam, spruce, fir tamarac, balm of gilead are names of but a few. All were hardy, as befitted the climate. Add to this, a clear Canadian sky overhead, singing birds among the trees, while small animals played about on carpets of wild flowers. (Larger animals were not plentiful and ferocious only when in search of food or defending their young.) A band of Indians noiselessly wending their way through this wilderness maze or softly paddling their canoes up and down the stream, keenly alert with bow and arrow for game to take with them for food to the camping ground, is all that is necessary to complete the picture.

The Indians at that time were rarely unfriendly in a settlement where the whites were to be trusted. In their reserved manner they welcomed visitors to their wigwams, especially children to whom they gave tiny baskets and who in turn were thrilled to see through the smoke a papoose blinking at them from a hammock slung from the peak. Years later a citizen of Little Britain went occasionally to an Indian Reserve to conduct a simple religious service. Some of the young girls went

along to help lead the singing. On one visit, at the end of the service the party were treated to a drink of fresh maple syrup, dipped from a kettle, all drinking from the same cup. Some will remember how the outside was cleared of syrup as each was served. The visitors were welcomed heartily and invited to return.

Some settlers may have come in about 1812. In 1820 this part of Victoria County, then part of Durham, was surveyed. The name Mariposa which is the Spanish for butterfly was chosen for it by a British officer on duty there in 1815 (Mariposa is also the "White Violet"). Between 1820 and 1850 settlers came in great numbers, obtaining land, clearing ground and making homes for their families. (See "Pioneers," nearly all of whom purchased their land.)

Tradition says that a village or hamlet was begun about a mile south of the present village, on a hill at Con. 4. It was named Plymouth, possibly because so many had sailed from that English port.

Mr. Yerex built on his farm a one-storied tavern, which fifty years later was torn down, and a commodious brick dwelling erected in its stead by James Broad, who then owned the farm which is now the home of John Stevens. A cupboard fashioned from the bar or cabinet of the tavern is in present use in the home. A short distance south an Orange hall was built. It was moved and is now occupied by Mrs. Florence Sparks. On the north-east corner (Culbert's farm) was Mr. Schell's blacksmith shop. This building was removed and now forms part of Charles Kennedy's residence in Little Britain village. It is not known where Mr. Schell lived. Probably there were other dwellings as well, for several names occur in the County Records.

No real reason has been obtained for abandoning this position and concentrating building in the little valley to the north.

Two names have been given as building the first tavern in Little Britain—Ezekiel Wiggins, Than Yerex. It was, however, one of the first houses to be built. Much accommodation was needed for men with teams taking loads for marketing to Port Hoover, Port Perry, Whitby and other places on Lakes Ontario and Scugog frontiers; much of such teaming had to be done by sleighs in winter.

As years passed tradesmen have come in who, in their shops, are busy at what the settlers before this had been doing on their farms. They are glad to be relieved of this so that they can devote more of their time to their farms which now include many acres, not small clearings. It is also more economical and convenient to trade as much as possible at home, so general stores were opened. There is now the village proper being formed, a trading centre, mechanics and dwelling houses for the families.

The name Little Britain was suggested by R. F. Whiteside, Sr., who had come from Little Britain, Penn., U.S.A. It was considered very appropriate as so many of the new settlers had come from the British

Isles. The name was chosen when it became necessary to have a post office which was opened in 1855.

In 1840, the village, now Little Britain, had two churches, one small store, one blacksmith shop, a tannery and a few houses.

Little Britain Village, 1867, as recalled by Hattie McWatters Robertson. Little Britain is a village situated about ten miles south-west of Lindsay and four miles north of Lake Scugog, Mariposa Township, Victoria County, Ontario. In 1867 the village as remembered consisted of twenty single residences, with eight stores and dwellings combined.

There were two main streets, King St. running north and south and Mill St. running east and west of the four corners. On Mill St. east there were no houses on the south side. On the north a foot-path led back about a lot to Metherell's house and farther back and a little east to the farm buildings. A short distance from the corner Blewett's house stood facing Mill St. On Mill St. west Hicks's shoe shop, a lane which led into Mark's farm yard, Bible Christian Church, cemetery and sheds, were on the south side. On Mill St. west, north side, Hill's house and tailor shop, a lane (nearly opposite the present church) which extended to the creek. J. Jewel's house was on this lane.

King St., south. On east side—Snook's house, William Pedlar's house, Sailes' house and shop, Jackson's hotel and sheds.

King St., south. On west side—A vacant lot, double house, Hambly lived in one part, John Murley's dwelling, John Broad's dwelling, store, and post office, Puley's dwelling, Schell's dwelling, Schell's blacksmith shop, Dr. Andrews's dwelling, Hick's cottage.

King St., north. On east side—Blewett and Murley's store and house, T. Ball's house, Blewett's blacksmith shop, Thomas Wallis's house, creek, Collacutt's house, Collacutt's blacksmith shop, George Mallett's house, James McWatters' house and harness shop, Heman Thomas's house.

King St., north. On west side—S. H. Metherell's store and dwelling, Thomas Lobb's dwelling, vacant lot, creek, John Kelly's shop and dwelling, Morgan's shoe shop, a driveway to Frank Morgan's house on the hill about a block away, vacant lot, Obadiah Rogers' factory, Obadiah Rogers' house, Jimmie Brown's house, school house, Christian Church and cemetery. Note—Several of these houses remain and are occupied at the present time.

The creek was spanned by a narrow wooden bridge, and on both sides some distance from the bridge were narrow board sidewalks, all without a protective railing as several persons realized to their discomfort as they slipped over the edge into the deep water, sometimes landing on one of the small islands just below.

The citizens were mostly of English and Irish nationality, with two Scotch families, two American and one Dutch, Henry Antis.

There were two political factions, Grit and Tory.

The first post office was established in 1855. The first postmaster was Obadiah Rogers (Dominion Archives, Ottawa). The post office was in Wood and Sanderson's store.

It is impossible to follow the fortunes of Little Britain through the intervening years to the present. It has prospered or suffered as the case may be from the introduction of modernism into industries, marketing, transportation, highways, and many other instances. The citizens were not slow to adopt the new, while they regretted the passing of the old. Machine-made goods superseded the custom-made goods manufactured in the shops and forced them out of existence.

The people of Little Britain retain their reputation for hospitality, and the village is still a beautiful spot to call "home".

The following list contains the names of some who have been connected with the professional and business life of the village.

Physicians

All the names of those practising in Little Britain from 1848 to 1871 have become only a memory but may be recalled personally by some.

Dr. Kellogg lived at Cullis Mill (Davidson's) until his home was burned down in his absence and R. F. Whiteside, Sr., built him a house on the hill where R. F. Whiteside, Jr., resides.

Dr. Martin came from Manilla.

Dr. Clarke came from Woodville.

Dr. Potts came from Oakwood.

Dr. Tweedie and Dr. Sayers lived at Little Britain, also Drs. Rear, Andrews and Degrassi.

Dr. A. E. Vrooman of U.E.L. stock, a graduate of Trinity Medical School, Toronto, practised in Little Britain from 1871 to 1897, when he removed to Lindsay where he built up a fine medical practice. To his patients at Little Britain he had become a trusted friend and an honoured physician.

Dr. G. W. Hall, son of John Hall, Con. 4, was well-known in the locality when he took over Dr. Vrooman's practice in 1896, and he is still on duty, 1939. Besides an extensive general practice over a wide area Dr. Hall early realized the advantages of X-ray, electrical and radium treatments for various diseases and his office contains an extensive and valuable equipment for this purpose. He was appointed Medical Health Officer; also he served for fifteen years on the local school board. His hobby is photography with which he has been most successful.

Dr. G. C. R. Hall, who is associated with his father in medical practice in Little Britain, has fewer years to his credit but in the short time since graduation has proved himself a clever physician worthy of the confidence and trust of those he serves.

The I.O.O.F. in 1938 conferred on him their highest honour, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. Being up-to-date, his hobby is amateur radio.

Some who served in political life:

Dr. A. E. Vrooman, Reeve, Warden, of Victoria County, M.P. (Con.), 1900, Mayor of Lindsay, 1901-1902.

In 1861 when Victoria was set apart as a Provisional County, Jonathan Hodgson was Representative for Mariposa Township for five years, in one of which he was Warden.

R. F. Whiteside, Sr., represented the township in 1862-66-67.

Jacob L. Whiteside was a representative in 1870.

William Parkinson, a representative in 1875-76, Warden in 1881.

Robert Irwin, a representative in 1877-78-80.

James Mark in 1878-79, died during the term.

Thomas Broad (Squire) served in 1879-80-81.

John Stacey, Reeve of Mariposa.

William Stacey, Reeve.

Edwin Mark, Reeve.

Charles Jenkins, Reeve.

A. J. Varcoe, Warden for Victoria County.

Geo. Mark, Warden.

A. E. Rich, Warden.

Veterinarians

Drs. Joseph Gregg, Clark and Gilson. John Eck was not a professional but a good under-graduate.

Merchants

There were three main general stores, sometimes including tailoring and post office. Those often changed owners.

On north-east corner. Blewett and Dryman, Parmenas Allin, Crews and Walton, Crews Brothers, W. H. Pogue—store burned and rebuilt, facing Mill St., E. Yerex had post office, Deyman and Goard, Goard.

On north-west corner. Built 1853. Wood and Sanderson, S. H. Metherell, a Toronto firm selling out a stock, W. H. Pogue, E. Dillman (this store has been closed for some time).

On King St., south-west side. John Broad built a store and dwelling, John Broad included tailoring and post office, Thos. H. Morton retained post office, Leslie Tremeeer, burned in 1909, rebuilt, C. Ferguson, Cruickshanks, George Heatlie, various stores and shops, Henry Wills had a grocery and provision store, Mr. Rowe had a furniture store, in a brick building. On south-west corner Mr. Parker opened a drug store, Jesse Weldon a general, John Rich a tailor shop, William Murley a store.

Jewellers

Stevens, Pretty, Bonzell.

Butchers

R. Roach, W. Yerex, H. Barraclough, Kitson.

Tailors

John Broad, Hicks, Cowle, father and son, Samuel Champion, John Rich, Wesley Coon, Samuel Wooldridge, Walter Everson.

Tinsmiths

Matthew McWatters, Alex. Rusland.

Harness Makers

James McWatters, H. Walton, John Eck, William Rodd, E. Dillman, Henry Walton, Arthur Walton.

Hotel

Only one in the village.

Wiggins, Yerex, Travis, W. Jackson, Edward Jackson, Reuben King, Billy Smith, Joseph Jenkins. This was a Temperance Hotel for many years. Local option was in force for 3 terms of 7 years each.

Shoe Manufacturing and Repairing

John Hicks, William Morgan, Frank Morgan, Henry Wills, Isaac Fuller, E. Dillman, E. Frise.

Blacksmiths, Carriage Work, etc.

James Collacutt, with his two sons, William and Thomas, all blacksmiths, came to Little Britain, north of the creek, on east side. It is not known that it was used as a blacksmith's shop after their time except when it was used by James Blewett and his staff while his new shop was being built.

John Blewett and his son James, both blacksmiths, had a shop prior to 1869. The business later became Blewett and Deyman, then Blewett

with Burden as a journeyman. Burden took over the business and later it was bought by W. J. Yeo, who still carries on the work, on what was often called Blewett's stand.

Another was Schell's stand. Schell moved down from Plymouth with his staff. It afterwards came into the possession of Joseph Maunder, who sold out to R. S. Robertson. It was destroyed by fire in 1909, rebuilt with cement. It is now a Massey-Harris showroom.

Banks

Western Bank, 1902-1909.

Standard Bank, 1909-1928.

Commerce, 1928-1939.

First manager, Ulysses Yerex. Bank was then part of a large building on King St., south-west side, near the corner. Mr. Belt was manager for some time. Others were McLaughlin, Short, Waddell and Veal.

The Community Hall in Little Britain besides containing Telephone Central and Public Library and Society club rooms has a splendid auditorium and stage for public meetings, dramatic work and mixed programmes in which the young people excel, yet welcoming some of the older talent.

The Women's Institute, a live organization, is carrying out interesting study and practical programmes in their classes, carrying off honors in many competitions, besides giving a thorough knowledge of home-making methods.

President, Mrs. Heatlie; Past President, Mrs. Roy Casey.



Sports

Baseball

For many years baseball has been the favourite sport enjoyed by the residents of Little Britain. Year after year zealous teams have met opponents with varying success, but always, if not winners, the boys were good losers.

The first baseball team was organized by Bill Burden, Sr., a blacksmith with James Blewett. He came from Bowmanville, and being familiar with the game, soon got the boys interested. It was new to them and they entered into it with enthusiasm. Their first game established a never-to-be-forgotten record, for the story goes that a match was arranged to meet a seasoned team from Lindsay who fully expected to give the rural team a severe trimming. To their surprise and mortification, not a single run was scored by them, and Burden's team was jubilant. The team included: William Burden, Sr., Thos. Collacott, William John Jackson, James O. Mark, William Morgan, John Pearce, John Cowle, Sam Maynard, Geo. Denison. John Ramsay also played.

Hockey

With a stream flowing through the village it was only natural that hockey should prove a popular winter sport. However, after the dam at Whiteside's Mill was lowered, the creek was not at all times suitable for skating, and it was almost impossible to keep the ice clear of snow for flooding, so that after several seasons hockey was abandoned. However, the village has produced some excellent players in both baseball and hockey.

About 1894 a Field Day was held with a programme of sports in a neighbouring field and a concert at night in the Oddfellows' Hall, which was in the Old Mill over Rusland's tinsmith shop. It was a financial success, and the problem arose as to the disposition of the funds. An informal chat between E. Z. Yerex and Dr. Vrooman suggested a Mechanics Institute. Other prominent men approved, and the result was, in a short time, a well equipped Public Library. Young women of the village canvassed for funds to add to the donation from the Field Day.

The first Librarian was Sam Champion, at his home, in the house now occupied by Richard Avery. The Library afterwards was removed to a room over E. Z. Yerex's store, and a reading room added. When the Community Hall—now Oddfellows'—was built, the Library was transferred to the street floor of that building, where it is now conveniently situated to serve its many interested patrons. Chas. H. Lapp, a principal of the Public School, was much interested in Library work and showed it in a practical manner by acting as Secretary-Treasurer for many years, without remuneration.

Little Britain Band

The Little Britain Band always generous with their services when called upon to help in public functions, can trace its origin back to the 70's. At that time the crowning glory was to parade with some Lodges to the grove (Whiteside's Woods) by the school, where the speeches were heard. Though the music and gay regalias had their effect, to the small boy nothing could fascinate like the drummer, Mr. McWatters, who had been drilling with the band for some weeks.

Band leaders were Sylvester, Hiram Brown, and W. Hooper. At present E. Linton has charge of the Boys' Band.



Stories

A weather-vane on the highest point of Mr. Hill's tailor shop, Mill St. west, was fascinating to the children. Two red-coated soldiers stood facing each other with swords in their hands and arms bent. As the wind blew they turned on a pivot and the swords in their hands worked as if they were fighting.

The sawmill, at times, was a great attraction for the children. An incline was built from ground to top floor. On it was a framework for logs. They were drawn up by iron chains. The genial sawyer, McNab, allowed the children to ride up on the logs, and when the logs were sawed to ride down again.

In 1909 a disastrous fire broke out in the village, cause unknown. It started in the drying room of R. S. Robertson's carriage building, burning it with all the contents, the adjoining showroom and the residence near by. Other places destroyed were Leslie Tremere's store

and residence, Will Yerex's residence, William Rodd's residence, John Rich's residence and tailor shop, Mrs. Sailes's residence, John Sloan's residence, and many sheds and barns. Nearly all were frame buildings and the fire spread rapidly.

A tax slip issued in 1868 was \$11.40 on an average 100 acre farm. Collector, John Glenney, Sr.

It was not unusual for farmers living in the vicinity where the village is now located, to stand at the door of their building and shoot a deer.

Mr. John Glenney, Sr., riding on horseback, was chased by a wolf from near the Christian Church to his home.

Mr. Tinkham left his wife in England when he first came to Canada. When writing to her he said, "The people here make sugar from trees." Her friends told her they were sure it was all lies, only a story to induce her to go there. Mr. Tinkham lived on Con. 4.

A settler sent his small boy to see why the pigs were squealing. A bear was causing the commotion. This occurred about where Samuel Hooper now lives.

A mother went out to get a sap trough to use as a cradle for the baby. She selected a suitable one and was returning to the shanty when she saw a bear and two cubs. She threw the trough and ran. So did the bears.

One bachelor built himself a shanty with a very large fireplace. By using a ladder in the space within, he was able to go out and in (perhaps for protection, but it was an Irish use of the ladder.) One day he took into his home a sick calf. It soon recovered but had grown so large a door had to be made in the wall to get it out.

A young girl with a dog was on her way to a spring for water. She heard a yelp and looking around found the dog had disappeared. It was supposed a wild animal had seized and killed it.

A young man, with no sense of smell, found what he supposed were small kittens. He took them into the house where some women were quilting, but actions showed they were not a favourite breed of kittens.

A farmer had one of the first fanning mills. The neighbours borrowed it and failed to bring it back. At last he ruled that they were welcome to use it but must bring their grain to his barn.

Shortly after he sent his boy to a nearby farmer's for the loan of a saddle. The obliging neighbour said he was very welcome to it but it must be used on his own premises.

Two other neighbours were seen engaged in a heated argument. It was learned that one was a good borrower but not a good returner. It was finally decided that each would keep a borrowed article until its owner went after it.

One very important article, however, that must be returned promptly when borrowed, was a community tube. This was seven or eight feet long, made of leather and had a coiled wire drawn down the centre, with a brass knob on the end. It was used to dislodge a piece of turnip from the throat of an animal when choking. It was always kept at James Mark's.

When Richard Smith was steward of the church he always knew the reply one man would give when asked to contribute to the support of the church. It was—"If I have anything left after my own debts are paid, I'll give you something."

The exploits of Samuel Starr, Sr., whose grandson, William, nearly 80, lives in W. Puley's house in the village is an interesting story. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1821, and was 6 years old when he came to Canada. He lived in Bay of Quinte district, Fenelon Township, and at last on Starr's Bay on the north shore of Lake Scugog. It is said that he was a rebel at the time of the Mackenzie rebellion and that a reward was offered for his capture. Soldiers followed him to Lindsay where they lost track of him. He recalled when he would climb a sapling and swing himself across the road to avoid being tracked, also when he rode a horse with shoes reversed to make it appear to be travelling in an opposite direction, stilts too were brought into use. At one time he was so hungry that he risked going into a settler's home and snatching a loaf of newly-baked bread from the table. A very frightened woman made no outcry. He with his wife spent his declining years on the farm mentioned, at Starr's Bay.

A story is told of a good Quaker lady of the settlement in the early days. She is said to have been so scrupulously clean that her floor must be scrubbed every day. Her young grand-daughter who was visiting her was just learning to knit and was so fascinated with it that she was working away on Sunday morning when the old lady said, "My dear! Doesn't thee know that this is the Sabbath day? Thee must not knit to-day!" The child replied, coaxingly, "Well, grandma, can't I knit just till Annie gets the floor scrubbed?"

The pioneer farmer, if he could look in to-day, would recall how in the "thirties" and "forties" he chopped down the trees and burned them in huge heaps; gradually cleared off the stumps and enclosed his small field with log or snake rail fences; ploughed with oxen and crude ploughs; trod back and forth across the ground, swinging his arms and scattering seeds from a container strapped in front of his body; when ripened, cut the grain with sickle, scythe or cradle—later with a one-arm reaper, or a rake-reaper, which threw out the grain in convenient bundles to be bound—then piled it into stacks or log barns; threshed it with the flail or other contraptions, the most familiar being the horse-power machine, where a man stood in the centre with a long whip whistling and urging on the five teams of horses, round and round, from daylight till dark; winnowed or cleared the grain with fanning-mill; the long, weary days hauling the grain with wagon or sleigh over rough or snow-filled roads.

He would remember the old root-house, or turnip-pit, covered with straw and earth, where the roots were stored to prevent freezing; the cold log stables where his horses, cattle and other animals were kept; the hens hiding their nests in the buildings or under bushes and weeds (burdock); the maple syrup and sugar, secured by inserting hand-made wooden spiles into trees, gathering sap in hollowed out troughs made of short, split logs, boiling the sap down in iron kettles in the bush, finishing on the kitchen stove. He would also recall how his good wife cooked their food at a fireplace, and was so happy when they secured a high oven cook-stove; how she washed the clothes with a pounder in a barrel, or with washboard and tub with water caught in a barrel with rain-boards under the eaves, and used soft soap made from the lye of wood ashes, combined with grease. Not forgotten would be the old milkhouse, partly underground, with its shining pans of milk; the cream churned by hand in the old dasher-churn. And, lastly, he could never forget the light from a rag drawn through a button in a saucer of fat, which was followed by tallow candles. What a luxury was the coal-oil lamp, in spite of the fear of an explosion.

Candle-making

In early days homes were lit by tallow candles, mostly home-made, the making of which was a source of interest. The candle molds were made of tin and stood eight or ten inches high. There were two rows of these tin cylinders, three or sometimes four in each row, attached, and stood upright from an oblong bottom of tin to a handle across the top. Each cylinder was open at the top with a pointed end at the bottom, with just enough space for the candle wick to pass through. The wicks were cut the length of the molds, having small loops at each end for small round sticks put through them to keep the wicks in the centre of the molds. Melted tallow was then poured into the molds and all was set aside to cool and harden for use.

Christmas Joys

There were two pleasing features about the old Christmas days. S. H. Metherell, who dressed as Santa Claus, having a string of bells across his shoulders and a pack on his back, would call at the homes of the small children and out of the pack he would put some candies and nuts in each small stocking, and then off to the next home.

At other times, on Christmas Day, after dinner, he would take a load of small children around the four-mile block east, coming home by the Old Mill. The children would sing "Jingle Bells" and other songs they knew. The boys would get out and scuffle in the snow, and then have a race back to see who would reach the sleigh first. This caused a lot of fun for all.

I.O.G.T.

The Good Templars' Hall, at its well-attended weekly meetings was for many years a favourite gathering place for the young people of the time. The drill in parliamentary procedure and oratorical criticism was a wonderful training for those same young people who, not long afterwards, appeared with perfect poise and complete confidence on many public platforms.

Mr. John Sloan has been highly spoken of by some younger members of the society for his strict training of, but great patience with, beginners.

Our beloved King George VI and Queen Elizabeth paid a Royal Visit to the Dominion of Canada in this our Centennial Year.

Compiled by

NORAH JANE YEO

PHILLIPA MARK SLOAN

